

JPRS 82471

15 December 1982

South and East Asia Report

No. 1229



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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NOTICE

Effective 1 January 1983, this report series is being reorganized and retitled the SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT. Material on the South Asian countries--Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka--that now appears in it will be published instead in the JPRS NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT. Also effective 1 January 1983, the JPRS VIETNAM REPORT is being discontinued. Vietnam material will subsequently be incorporated into the SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT.

15 December 1982

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1229

CONTENTS

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

- ASEAN May Retaliate Against India on Kampuchea
(Jim Wolf; AFP, 17 Nov 82) 1

Briefs

- ASEAN-EEC Meetings Ends 3

INDONESIA

- Fretilin Launches New Campaign in East Timor
(NOTICIAS, 29 Oct 82) 4

KAMPUCHEA

- Chea Sim Replies to SRV, CSSR, Bulgarian Cables
(Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 24 Nov 82) 6

- Party Paper Writes on Will To Defend Gains
(SPK, 21 Nov 82) 7

- Agricultural Report for 15-21 November
(Editorial Report) 9

- Agricultural Report for 22-28 November
(Editorial Report) 11

Briefs

- Steps To Increase Breeding of Cattle 13
Aid to Vietnam 13
Aid to People 13
AAPSO Delegation to MPR 14
Swiss Health Cooperation 14
Chea Sim Thanks Hungarian President 14
Motion Picture Delegation to GDR 14
Hun Sen Greets Seychelles' Foreign Minister 14

LAOS

Editorial Marks October Revolution Anniversary (Vientiane Domestic Service, 18 Nov 82)	15
---	----

Briefs

Swedish Delegation's Visit	17
Hungarian Trade Delegation	17
Printing Delegation Returns	17

MALDIVES

Two New Ministers in Maldives Cabinet (DAILY NEWS, 17 Nov 82)	19
--	----

PAKISTAN

United States Chamber of Commerce May Be Set Up (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	20
Expansion in Mass Media Cooperation With UAE Discussed (MORNING NEWS, 18 Nov 82)	21
NDP Leaders Say Baluchistan Needs Special Attention (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	23
Pakistan-Romania Joint Body Holds Meeting (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	24
Crisis in Tehrik-I-Istiqial Ranks Reported (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	25
Productive, Fruitful Use of Remittances Urged (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	26
Applications for Private Colleges Received (DAWN, 17 Nov 82)	28
Trade With Nepal To Grow (DAWN, 20 Nov 82)	29
Zia-Indira Summit Reviewed (A.T. Chaudhri; DAWN, 20 Nov 82)	30
Failure To Promote Local Technology Criticized (DAWN, 22 Nov 82)	32
Islamizing the Judiciary: Official's Remarks Debated, Disagreement Expressed (Editorial; BUSINESS RECORDER, 11 Nov 82)	34
Workings, Facilities of a Refugee Village Reviewed (Annick Billard; BUSINESS RECORDER, 9 Nov 82)	36

College of Ocean Science and Technology Proposed (BUSINESS RECORDER, 13 Nov 82)	39
Reconciliation Courts for Minor Cases (MORNING NEWS, 19 Nov 82)	41
Muslim League To Step Up Efforts for Unity (DAWN, 23 Nov 82)	43
Highway To Boost Baluchistan's Economy (Siddiq Baluch; DAWN ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS REVIEW SUPPLEMENT, 28 Nov 82)	44
Chinese Team Visits Afghan Refugees (DAWN, 22 Nov 82)	47
Minister on Buffer Stock of Wheat (MORNING NEWS, 19 Nov 82)	48
Minister Says Agricultural Production Can Be Tripled (DAWN, 22 Nov 82)	49
Briefs	
Soviet Composer Visiting	50
Lawyers to Boycott Courts	50
Punjab University Elections Demanded	50
Sindhi Writer's Release Demanded	51
Chinese Vehicles for Refugees	51
Lahore Students Demonstration Reported	51
Mahbukul Haq's Travel Plans	51
Al-Zulfiqar Man's Arrest Reported	52
Governor on Baluchistan Development	52
PDP Passes Resolution	52
Detainees Freed	53
PPF Steering Committee	53
Ghafoor Criticizes Restrictions	53
Trade With Hungary	53
Jui Leaders' Release Urged	54
Monthly Forfeited	54
More Polytechnic Institutes for Sind	54

PHILIPPINES

Cardinal Sin Seeks Dialogue With Marcos (Mel Parale; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 18 Nov 82)	55
Firms Warned on Delinquent Taxes (BULLETIN TODAY, 16 Nov 82)	57
Central Bank Curbs New Short Term Foreign Credits (BULLETIN TODAY, 18 Nov 82)	59

PHILIPPINES

Troop Pullout Ordered Investigated (BULLETIN TODAY, 18 Nov 82)	60
Military Retirement Schedule Stays (Jose De Vera; BULLETIN TODAY, 18 Nov 82)	61
Fraternity Link With Radicals Seen (BULLETIN TODAY, 18 Nov 82)	62
UNIDO Explains Turn to Radicalism (I.S. Chammag; BULLETIN TODAY, 16 Nov 82)	63
Textile Firms Pressed on Debts (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 18 Nov 82)	64
Funds for Rice Purchase Released (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 18 Nov 82)	65
Jeepney Strike Leader Charged With Sedition (VISAYAN HERALD, 11 Nov 82)	66
Archbishop Salvador Urges Caution on Abuses (VISAYAN HERALD, 11 Nov 82)	67
Human Rights Crusade Draws Support From PDP (Al Alinsug; VISAYAN HERALD, 11 Nov 82)	68
Probity of Opposition Questioned (Atty David Ompoc; VISAYAN HERALD, 9 Nov 82)	70
Clerics' Arrests Alarm Women's Group (VISAYAN HERALD, 9 Nov 82)	72
Church Launches Massive Human Rights Crusade (Mike Ynclino; VISAYAN HERALD, 9 Nov 82)	73
Citizens' Criticisms of Marcos Reported (Atty David Ompoc; VISAYAN HERALD, 6/7 Nov 82)	74
Possibility of Opposition Election Boycott Viewed (Danny M. Gonzales; VISAYAN HERALD, 6/7 Nov 82)	76
Follower of Rebel Priest Surrenders (VISAYAN HERALD, 6/7 Nov 82)	78
Columnist Reports Efforts To Discredit Church (Danny M. Gonzales; VISAYAN HERALD, 4 Nov 82)	79

Witness Identifies NPA Leader (Arthur J. Tariman; VISAYAN HERALD, 4 Nov 82)	81
Church Official Denies Future Arrests (VISAYAN HERALD, 4 Nov 82)	82
Briefs	
IFAD Irrigation Project Loan	83
Constabulary Units Reorganized	83
Malaysia Berated on Sabah	83
Coconut Exports Drop	84

SRI LANKA

Editorial Attacks Subversive Clergy (Editorial; SUN, 18 Nov 82)	85
Briefs	
Diplomatic Ties With PNG	86
More Priests Arrested	86
Tamil Congress May Leave Front	86
Opposition Wants Emergency Lifted	87
Priests Held Hold-Up Money	87
Priests' Overseas Radio Link	87
Security Plans for North	88
Decline in Tea Production	88

THAILAND

CPT Front Leaders Defect; Front Dissolved (THE NATION REVIEW, 22 Nov 82)	89
Columnist Criticizes India on Kampuchea Issue (Somkiat Onwimon; MATICHON, 17 Nov 82)	91
Athit Scores BBC Commentary Newsmen (THAI RAT, 14 Nov 82)	93
Commentary Notes UNGA Debate on Southeast Asia (Bangkok Voice of Free Asia, 19 Nov 82)	95
Impounded Soviet Oil for Laos Released (THE NATION REVIEW, 11 Nov 82)	97
Army Says CPT Headquarters Move South Unlikely (THE NATION REVIEW, 26 Nov 82)	98
Talks With Burma on Citizenship Issue 'Expected' (THE NATION REVIEW, 17 Nov 82)	99
Editorial Urges Seating of Sihanouk at Nam (Editorial; THE NATION REVIEW, 26 Nov 82)	100

Busfare Crisis Reported, Student Role, Prem Response (BANGKOK POST, 14, 20, 21 Nov 82; AFP, 25 Nov 82)	102
Athit Interviewed	
University Protest	
Prem Orders Suspension of Increase	
Student Role Noted, by Anuraj Manibhandu	
Muslim Rebels Get Military Training From PLO (THE NATION REVIEW, 15 Nov 82)	106
Thanat Interviewed on ASEAN Military Ties (Thanat Khoman Interview; THE NATION REVIEW, 15 Nov 82)	107
RTA Spokesman: No Evidence of CPT-CPB Links (THE NATION REVIEW, 26 Nov 82)	109
New KPNLF Chieftains Analyzed (Jacques Bekaert; THE NATION REVIEW, 15 Nov 82)	110
Rice Price Support Protests, Plight of Farmers Discussed (BANGKOK POST, various dates; THE NATION REVIEW, 29 Nov 82) .	112
Editorial Notes Farm Problem	
Farmers Rally for Increase	
Interior Minister OKs Protest	
Saiyut Warns Protesters	
Editorial Urges Continued Price Supports	
Khukrit Cites Political Factor	
Newspapers Warned About Reports	
Development of Port Gets Approval (BANGKOK POST, 25 Nov 82)	120
Senior CPT Members Not Allowed To Quit (BANGKOK POST, 22 Nov 82)	121
Vietnamese Refugees To Be Allowed To Leave (BANGKOK POST, 20 Nov 82)	122
Refugee Children Can Acquire Citizenship (BANGKOK POST, 23 Nov 82)	123
Burmese Army Clashes With WA Rebels in North (BANGKOK POST, 16 Nov 82)	125
Briefs	
Trade Deficit Reported	126
Order on Refugees' Citizenship Clarified	126
Ex-Convicts From Laos Arrive Home	126
Mong Flee Laos	126

Military-Civilian Cooperation	127
Burmese Forces Raid Shan Rebel Camp	127
UNHCR To Help in Refugee Repatriation Plans	128
Trade Surplus With FRG	128
BBC 'Negative' Commentary Rapped	128
Communist Insurgents Spring Ambush	128
Vietnamese Boat People Arrive	129
King's Condition Improving	129

TONGA

Briefs

Envoy To Tonga Presents Credentials	130
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ASEAN MAY RETALIATE AGAINST INDIA ON KAMPUCHEA

BK170728 Hong Kong AFP in English 0630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Report by Jim Wolf]

[Text] Bangkok, 17 Nov (AFP)--Thailand and its regional allies have threatened to retaliate strongly against India if it continues to work against their diplomacy on war-torn Cambodia, diplomats here report. Among the threats were a possible crackdown on the thousands of illegal Indian immigrants in Southeast Asia and review of joint ventures with Indian companies, sources said. The long-simmering dispute is expected to come to a boil by March, when India is due to host the seventh summit of the 97-nation Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)--which links Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines--has already begun calling in Indian envoys to voice their grievances. Thailand, which is currently chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, appears to be leading the campaign, but each of the ASEAN states has made demarches, Asian diplomats here said. The five are angered by signs that India may thwart their bid to send Prince Norodom Sihanouk to the nonaligned summit to argue the case of his new anti-Vietnamese tripartite alliance. Prince Sihanouk is president of the ASEAN-backed Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, which lost its nonaligned seat at the movement's last summit in Havana in 1979. The unseating came after Vietnamese-led forces drove the Khmer Rouge of ex-Premier Pol Pot from Phnom Penh.

Relations between ASEAN and India have been strained since July 1980 when India became the only major non-communist country to recognize the Hanoi-installed Heng Samrin Government in Phnom Penh. Diplomats said matters worsened last month after the Indian delegate to the UN General Assembly lambasted the coalition as "none other than the universally discredited and condemned regime of Pol Pot." On 28 October, the Thai Foreign Ministry summoned India's ambassador to Bangkok, Ashok Ghokale, to express its displeasure over the Indian statement. At a subsequent meeting with an Indian Embassy official, Thai officials raised the possibility of retaliation.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie reacted even more strongly in public, warning that India may "have gone beyond its limit" in backing Heng Samrin at the General Assembly and at a recent commonwealth heads of government regional meeting in Fiji.

"No matter how India tries to justify its stand, it is obvious that its position as a member and chairman of the Nonaligned Movement is being affected," he said in Kuala Lumpur on 9 November.

Sources said ASEAN was particularly irked at what the Thais called evidence that India had gone beyond verbal support for Heng Samrin this year to canvass for him at the United Nations. Indian diplomats here dismissed the charge as unfounded, but acknowledged that Thailand's envisaged sanctions would seriously hurt. Previous Indian Governments had met difficulties after Indians were expelled from Uganda in the 1970's, one diplomat recalled.

Thailand is not a member of the Nonaligned Movement, but three of its ASEAN partners--Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia--are. The three are known to be playing on their respective ties to the commonwealth and Islamic world to try to win a nonaligned berth for Prince Sihanouk. Analysts generally agree that the presence in New Delhi of the charismatic prince would be a negative factor for Vietnam, which has already lost diplomatic ground this year in efforts to build support for the Phnom Penh Government.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told Agence France-Presse in Bangkok recently that he was delaying a planned trip to the Philippines to take part in the annual meeting next month in New Delhi of an Indian-Vietnamese Joint Economic Commission.

CSO: 4200/164

BRIEFS

ASEAN-EEC MEETING ENDS--The European Economic Community can offer only limited help to members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as they face price drops in vital commodities, an EEC spokesman said yesterday. The spokesman, Mr Will Reckman, said the EEC, however, promised to provide "political support" within various international commodity organisations though it could do little by itself to increase imports of those commodities to EEC members or to increase prices. The commodity prices was one issue discussed at this week's meeting of ASEAN-EEC Joint Cooperation Committee [JCC] held in Phatthaya which concluded yesterday. Meanwhile, a senior EEC official said that the EEC agreed to find means to increase investment in Southeast Asian region where the Japanese have long been in the lead. The success of the third JCC meeting was expressed by a high ranking ASEAN official that, "we have proved to EEC that we no longer go around and beg for something. ASEAN has something to offer, such as our rich natural resources, while they have technology and capital goods. Both regions have potential which could be cooperatively developed for mutual benefit." [Text] [BK060550 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Nov 82 p 22]

CSO: 4200/164

INDONESIA

FRETILIN LAUNCHES NEW CAMPAIGN IN EAST TIMOR

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Oct 82 p 1

/Text/ The Maubere people guerrillas of FRETILIN /Revolutionary Front for East Timor Independence/ in East Timor have recently launched an extensive military campaign which western agencies classify as unprecedented since the Indonesian occupation in 1976.

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE yesterday reported from Djakarta, the capital of Indonesia, that a few days ago FRETILIN had attacked several police stations and other unspecified targets.

According to the same source, since last August guerrillas have attacked at least 15 Indonesian soldiers in battles recorded throughout the Timor territory.

Terror in East Timor

Humanist organizational sources mentioned by Western agencies reveal that Indonesian troops have created "a veritable climate of terror" in East Timor.

According to AFP, Djakarta soldiers have patrolled Maubere territorial waters with mounted sentries armed with guns to prevent the departure of boats with island inhabitants seeking refuge insurrounding islands.

"Indonesian cannons take aim on barges with refugees," FRANCE PRESSE describes the East Timor inhabitants' plight.

Meanwhile, the number of FRETILIN guerrillas who, since the occupation, have been opposing Indonesian forces, is calculated in the thousands.

Agencies quoting religious sources report that the Indonesian Government, to repress the guerrillas, has resorted to the same tactics and the same arms which the United States of America used in the war in Vietnam.

Religious sources insist that it is a question of a "genocidal war." They also say that infant mortality has increased in East Timor because of poor nutrition, gastroenteritis, cholera and tuberculosis.

The occupying army, which controls a large part of the roads to the interior of the island, is preventing the transportation of foodstuffs and medicines to the mountains where the FRETILIN guerrillas have taken refuge.

The mountainous zones have been the target of bombardments by the Indonesian army, which is following a scorched-earth policy.

8870

CSO: 3432/51

CHEA SIM REPLIES TO SRV, CSSR, BULGARIAN CABLES

BK241029 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Recently, on the occasion of the 50th birthday of Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the Kampuchean National Assembly, many countries sent congratulatory messages. In reply to these expressions of great friendship, Comrade Chea Sim sent messages thanking the leaders of the friendly countries' national assemblies, among them Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the SRV National Assembly; Comrade Stanko Todorov, president of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; and Comrade Alois Indra, chairman of the Federal National Assembly of the CSSR.

Comrade Chea Sim wrote to Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho: I would like to reiterate, comrade, that our party, government and people adhere to a policy of strengthening the militant solidarity and close and good cooperation between our two countries for the sake of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

To the comrade president of the National Assembly of Bulgaria and the Comrade Chairman of the CSSR National Assembly, Comrade Chea Sim wrote:

I fully agree with you on the development and strengthening of the relations of friendship and close cooperation in all fields between our two countries, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

CSO: 4212/10

PARTY PAPER WRITES ON WILL TO DEFEND GAINS

BK210954 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 21 Nov 82

["The Kampuchean People Are Determined to Defend Their Fatherland"--SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 21 Nov (SPK)--In an editorial published in its 18 November issue, the paper KAMPUCHEA writes:

The Kampuchean people are determined to rebuild a peaceful and prosperous Kampuchea and will not allow the return to Kampuchea of the Pol Pot gang or its disguised version.

The paper recalls the period when Kampuchea groaned under the reign of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique--traitors to the nation and servants of the Beijing expansionists--a dark period full of unprecedented suffering and indelible from Kampucheans' memories.

The paper goes on: For 3 years, 8 months and 20 days, the Angkor fatherland was transformed into an open prison--one of the most barbarous regimes copied from senseless Maoism and to be established in Kampuchea. From city to province, from plain to mountainous regions, everywhere, one saw only massacre, tragedy, destruction and broken-up families. In just over 3 years, the Pol Pot gang massacred more than 3 million innocent Kampucheans. Infrastructures were destroyed and society completely turned upside down. They destroyed pagodas, wiped out culture, religious beliefs, traditions and customs and massacred intellectuals, technicians and specialists. The martyred Kampuchea was bathed in blood and tears covered with bones and ashes.

After liberation, the Kampuchean people had to face numerous difficulties. Under the just leadership of the party, with the will of a united people to fight persistently, with the benefit of international solidarity and devoted assistance of Vietnam, Laos and the Soviet Union, fraternal socialist countries and the world's progressive peoples, the Kampuchean people were able to heal the wounds caused by the genocidal clique.

For more than 3 years, the Kampuchean people have won numerous successes in all fields. The lush landscape and smiling face of a nation--master of its society--have replaced the tragedy of the Pol Pot years. Despite the opposition of reactionary Khmers of all stripes, the people's power is daily consolidating. Everywhere in the country emulation movements have been launched in order to promote production.

The Kampuchean people are determined to frustrate all maneuvers of the nation's traitors who attempt to oppose the progress of the Kampuchean people, to hold aloft the banners of patriotism and proletarian internationalism, and defend and reinforce the Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos strategic alliance--a factor which determines the victory and development of the three countries.

The Kampuchean people aspire to live in peace and freedom. The surviving 6 million Kampucheans will never allow the return of Pol Pot or his disguise to Kampuchea.

CSO: 4219/16

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR 15-21 NOVEMBER

[Editorial Report] Monitored Kampuchean media have reported the following agricultural developments in the reporting period 15-20 November:

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0409 GMT on 17 November reports that this year's fishery production plan is set at 72,000 tons. The Fishery Department has supplied fishermen with 10 motor boats and other necessary equipment and materiel totaling 170 tons. The number of fishery solidarity groups has increased from 880 in 1981 to 1,200 in 1982. The Agriculture Ministry has taken appropriate measures to help accomplish the fishery production plan including the protection of fish during the breeding season and the introduction of new modes of exploitation. Last season fishermen caught about 65,700 tons or 120 percent of the plan norm.

Prey Veng: The news agency at 1424 GMT on 15 November says that peasants in Prey Veng Province are preparing farm tools, seeds and draft power in order to help accomplish the dry-season rice production plan of 32,000 hectares. In the past rainy season, the people cultivated 205,720 hectares, overfulfilling 11.2 percent of the plan, as against 174,000 hectares recorded in the 1981 season. They also grew 21,000 hectares of subsidiary crops. So far they have obtained 12,100 tons of early rice. At 1434 GMT on 16 November, SPK adds Prey Veng District has harvested 1,120 hectares of early rice. In the dry season the district plans to plant 1,920 hectares of rice, including 600 hectares of IR-36 strain. In the past rainy season the district cultivated 27,200 hectares of rice or 760 hectares above plan. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 20 November says Baphnum District has transplanted 600 hectares of early rice and harvested flood-receding rice on 1,154 hectares. The district has received 60 tons of chemical fertilizer from the state to help in the dry-season rice production. SPK at 0412 GMT on 17 November notes that in the past rainy season, the district cultivated 16,720 hectares, or 4,800 hectares more than in the same season in 1981. Phnom Penh Radio at 1100 GMT on 21 November adds that in the past rainy season Peam Ro District transplanted more than 1,600 hectares of rice and planted 2,700 hectares of subsidiary crops.

Takeo: According to Phnom Penh Radio at 1320 GMT on 18 November, the dry-season rice production plan for Treang District is 4,300 hectares. The radio adds at 1300 GMT on 20 November that Samraong District has transplanted

11,900 hectares of various types of rice, cleared 100 hectares of new land, plowed 300 hectares of land and planted more than 500 hectares of other crops.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchy: The radio at 0430 GMT on 19 November notes that this year Sot Nikom District transplanted 25,360 hectares of various kinds of rice or 6,000 hectares more than that planted last year. By the end of October, about 1,300 hectares of rice have been harvested and over 22,000 heads of cattle and buffalo raised while more than 1,000 hectares of mung bean and other secondary food crops planted.

CSO: 4219/16

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR 22-28 NOVEMBER

[Editorial Report] Monitored Kampuchean media have reported the following agricultural developments in the reporting period 22-28 November:

Kompong Chhnang: According to Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 28 November, the province had harvested 587 hectares of slash and burn and highland rice and 671 hectares of early and ordinary rice by 15 November. At 0430 GMT on 22 November the radio reports that the target for the 1982-1983 fishing season is 11,000 tons.

Takeo: In Samraong District, the radio reports at 1300 GMT on 22 November, 11,900 hectares of rice were transplanted in the rainy season along with 500 hectares of subsidiary crops. In Prey Kabbas District, the radio reports at 1300 GMT on 25 November, 10,236 hectares of rainy season rice were transplanted and 1,000 hectares of subsidiary crops planted. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1437 GMT on 28 November reports that 123,000 hectares of rice were planted in the rainy season, fulfilling 90 percent of the plan.

Kompong Cham: In Chamka Leu District, the radio reports at 1300 GMT on 22 November, 5,500 hectares of rainy season rice were transplanted along with 1,000 hectares of corn, 183 hectares of potato and 2,800 hectares of industrial crops. In Tbong Khmum District, the radio reports at 0430 GMT on 26 November, 6,400 hectares of early rice is being harvested. In Ponhea Krek District, according to the radio at 0430 GMT on 27 November, 3,250 hectares of early and slash and burn rice have been harvested since the end of October. Preparations are underway to harvest 11,240 hectares of late rice. In Memot District, the radio reports at 1300 GMT on 27 November, the people are caring for 116,000 hectares of transplanted rice. Over 3,100 hectares of subsidiary crops and 850 hectares of industrial crops have also been planted. At 0430 GMT on 28 November the radio reports that 1,000 hectares of early rice had been harvested in Tbong Khmum District by late November.

Kandal: At 0430 GMT on 23 November the radio reports that in Khsach Kandal District 5,140 hectares of rice have been transplanted--95 percent of the plan--and 1,500 hectares of various subsidiary crops. There are now 12,070 head of oxen in the district. At 0414 GMT on 23 November SPK reports that Kien Svay District planted 4,500 hectares of rice in the rainy season, 60 percent of which was IR-36 rice. Since mid-November the district has harvested 230 hectares of rice.

Battambang: The radio reports at 0430 GMT on 26 November that Sangke District planted 35,700 hectares of rice in the rainy season. SPK at 0419 GMT on 26 November reports that the gunny sack factory in Battambang now turns out 2,000 sacks a day. The factory has bought 1,000 tons of jute from the people and from Vietnam.

Kompong Som: The radio reports at 0430 GMT on 27 November that in Prey Nop District over 440 hectares of early rice had been harvested by 20 November and that over 200 hectares of subsidiary crops had been planted.

Pursat: SPK at 1427 GMT on 28 November reports that this year the province produced 6,550 cubic meters of wood for construction.

Prey Veng: At 0427 GMT on 22 November SPK reports that solidarity production teams in Peam Ro District have started planting dry season rice, the target being 4,000 hectares. Last year, despite dry conditions, they grew 1,870 hectares of rice and 2,700 hectares of corn, beans and sesame.

CSO: 4212/10

BRIEFS

STEPS TO INCREASE BREEDING OF CATTLE--Phnom Penh, 22 Nov (SPK)--On 18 November the Ministry of Agriculture made public in Phnom Penh a decision by the Council of Ministers concerning cattle breeding. The Council of Ministers gave instructions on the collective's and individual's right to own cattle, on remuneration to be paid to cattle owners for services rendered by their cattle, on categories of cattle--for slaughter, draft and breeding--and also on measures to be taken against unlicensed slaughterers. The Council of Ministers has taken appropriate measures to encourage people to expand cattle breeding for the benefit of agricultural production. Cattle breeders will be granted facilities for buying food, while the public services concerned will intensify training courses for cattle breeders and introduce people to new methods of cattle breeding. The veterinary service will be in charge of vaccinating cattle against infectious diseases. Solidarity groups and individual cattle breeders are invited to borrow capital from the state in order to expand cattle breeding. According to statistics Kampuchea now has more than 1.5 million head of cattle as against 3 million in 1970. [Text] [BK241004 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1433 GMT 22 Nov 82]

AID TO VIETNAM--Phnom Penh, 21 Nov (SPK)--Phlek Phirun, chairman of the Kampuchean Red Cross, handed over 200 blankets--gifts from the Kampuchean Red Cross to the Vietnamese Red Cross--to Ngo Dien, Vietnamese ambassador to Kampuchea. These blankets were offered by the Kampuchean Red Cross to the victims of Typhoon Nancy in Nghe Tinh Province in central Vietnam. Phlek Phirun, heading the Kampuchean Red Cross delegation, went to the SRV Embassy in Phnom Penh on 17 November to present her condolences to the typhoon's victims. [Text] [BK220335 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0423 GMT 21 Nov 82]

AID TO PEOPLE--Phnom Penh, 14 Nov (SPK)--Recently, the Kampuchean Red Cross distributed 34 tons of rice offered by the UNHCR to 680 families in Kompong Trabek and Sithor Kandal districts, Prey Veng Province. In Svay Rieng, Rumduol, Romeans Hek, Kompong Rou and Chantrea districts, Svay Rieng Province, 680 families each received 50 kg of rice. [Text] [BK151208 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 14 Nov 82]

AAPSO DELEGATION TO MPR--Phnom Penh, 11 Nov (SPK)--At the invitation of the Mongolian Committee for Solidarity with Afro-Asian Peoples, a delegation of the Kampuchean AAPSO Committee led by its Vice Chairman Phat Phanu left Phnom Penh on 11 November to attend an AAPSO conference to be held in Ulaanbaataar on 18 November. Min Khin, acting secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council, and Chum Bunrong, secretary general of the Kampuchean AAPSO Committee, saw the delegation off at Pochentong Airport. [Text] [BK151208 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1454 GMT 11 Nov 82]

SWISS HEALTH COOPERATION--Phnom Penh, 13 Nov (SPK)--An agreement on bilateral cooperation in health matters was signed in Phnom Penh on 9 November by Nut Savoeun, deputy minister of health and representative of the Kampuchean Red Cross, and Dr Kurt Markwalder, representative of the Swiss Red Cross. According to the agreement, the Swiss Red Cross will send two surgeons, medicine and medical equipment for refitting Kompong Cham provincial hospital. [Text] [BK151208 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1430 GMT 13 Nov 82]

CHEA SIM THANKS HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT--I would like to thank you for your wishes sent to me on my 50th birthday. In return, I would like to wish you good health and success in carrying out your noble tasks for the progress and well-being of the fraternal Hungarian people and for the strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. [Text] [BK170342 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 16 Nov 82]

MOTION PICTURE DELEGATION TO GDR--A delegation of the PRK Motion Picture Department led by Mau Ayut, deputy chief of the Information and Culture Ministry's Motion Picture Department, left Phnom Penh on 11 November to attend the GDR Leipzig film festival. [BK151208 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Nov 82]

HUN SEN GREETSEYCHELLES' FOREIGN MINISTER--We would like to wish Your Excellency good health, happiness and success in carrying out your noble tasks for the well-being and prosperity of the people of Seychelles and for the progress of Your Excellency's beloved fatherland as well as for the benefit of the relations of friendship and solidarity between our two countries. [Text] [BK170419 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 16 Nov 82]

CSO: 4212/10

EDITORIAL MARKS OCTOBER REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

BK201455 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0400 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Unattributed editorial: "The Soviet Union Is the Diamond Fortress of World Revolution and Peace"]

[Summary] The great October revolution of Russia in 1917 was the first proletarian revolution and attained the most perfect, all-round and greatest success in the world history. It marked a complete end to the exploitation of man by man in an area covering one-sixth of the world, thus opening up a new era, an era of independence, freedom and socialism for various nations in the five continents.

The past 65 years have been years of heroic struggle and creative labor for national construction. The Soviet people, heightening the glorious tradition of the great October revolution, have scored glorious achievements in the cause of national defense and national construction, thereby honorably contributing to the development of the world revolution.

The Soviet Union now has modern industrial and agricultural bases and advanced technology and science and a strong national defense, ensuring the laboring people's happiness and prosperity. The entire Soviet people are currently striving to build the material and technical bases of communism by swiftly developing technique and science and appropriately utilizing national production potentials.

"Since the birth of the Soviet state, the Soviet people have struggled against sabotage activities carried out by all imperialist and reactionary forces and resolutely dealt heavy blows to them, thus completely defeating their dark designs and firmly safeguarding the socialist motherland. Meanwhile, they have assisted the national liberation movement, wholeheartedly supported the international workers' movement and carried out their obligations as a solid prop for the various revolutionary forces throughout the world.

"In the face of the strength of the three revolutionary currents, the imperialists and the international reactionary forces are currently carrying out counterrevolutionary activities to save themselves from defeats. An outstanding point of the current international situation is that the

imperialists, headed by the U.S. imperialists, and the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists are undertaking counterrevolutionary collusion spearheaded at the Soviet Union. They are energetically launching propaganda campaigns on the so-called Soviet military threat in order to renew the cold war. They are striving to promote the arms race and prepare for war, thereby creating tension everywhere. They have directly or through their stooges engaged in armed clashes and various sabotage activities against various independent and progressive countries and the national liberation movements in the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia, Africa, the Middle East and other areas."

"The Lao revolution, previously guided by the Indochinese Communist Party and currently by the LPRP, has followed the political line of Marxism-Leninism, the way opened up by the great October revolution. The Lao people are aware that each step of growth and development of the Lao revolution on the path of the national salvation struggle against the imperialist aggressors as well as during the period of defending and building the socialist fatherland is closely associated with the growth, strength and successes of the Soviet Union. The assistance of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries has become a factor for the victory of the Lao revolution."

The Lao people express overwhelming gratitude to the Soviet party, government, army and people for their precious and effective assistance. On this occasion, they wish the Soviet people new and still greater successes in implementing the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, splendidly fulfilling the 11th 5-year plan and advancing along the glorious path of the October revolution.

CSO: 4206/26

BRIEFS

SWEDISH DELEGATION'S VISIT--Vientiane, 29 Nov (OANA-KPL)--A governmental delegation of the Kingdom of Sweden, headed by Andre Forsee, general director of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), arrived here on 27 November for an official visit. The delegation is to review the implementation of several programs of cooperation between Sweden and Laos--particularly that of the Swedish-Lao friendship forestry project in Paksane (150 kilometers south of Vientiane). The Swedish delegation was welcomed at the airport by Kham-Ouan Bouppha, vice minister of industry, handicrafts and forestry and chairman of the Committee for the Implementation of the Lao-Swedish Economic and Social Cooperation; Mats Aberq, charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Sweden to Laos; and other high ranking officials. [Text] [BK301456 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 29 Nov 82]

HUNGARIAN TRADE DELEGATION--Vientiane, 30 Nov (OANA-KPL)--The Hungarian delegation of foreign trade led by its Deputy-Minister Jozsef Kaplar, this morning called on Lao Minister of Trade Vanthong Sengmuang. Vanthong Sengmuang on this occasion hailed the visit to Laos of the Hungarian delegation which will greatly contribute to the strengthening of the fraternal friendship relations between Laos and Hungary and especially between the two trade ministries. The two sides gave special emphasis on the improving of the cooperation and commercial [word indistinct] between the two countries. J. Kaplar thanked the Lao party for the warm hospitality and pledged to give all efforts to improve the commercial exchanges between Laos and Hungary. [Text] [BK301456 Vientiane KPL in English 0959 GMT 30 Nov 82] **Vientiane, 30 Nov (OANA-KPL)--**The Hungarian foreign trade delegation led by its deputy-minister, Jozsef Kaplar, and Lao trade delegation led by its Deputy-Minister Chanpheng Bounnaphong held talks here today. The two sides are to elaborate on the 1983 commercial exchanges between Laos and Hungary, the shipment of merchandise from Hungary to Laos and other matters of common interest. The Hungarian foreign trade delegation arrived here yesterday. [Text] [BK301456 Vientiane KPL in English 0958 GMT 30 Nov 82]

PRINTING DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 24 Nov (OANA-KPL)--The delegation of the Lao Printing House led by Ounhuan Phounsavat was back home on 23 November after having attended the second conference of Laos, Vietnam, Kampuchea and the USSR in the printing affairs, which was held from 10-14 November in Moscow. The four countries at the conference exchanged

views on the printing and publication of books and signed a cooperation agreement for 1983-85. After the Moscow conference, Ounheuan Phounsavat and his delegation went to Sofia to attend the conference of the cooperation committees of the socialist countries in printing matter, which was organised from 16-17 November. The conference studied and exchanged views on the publication of Marxist and Leninist theoretical documents, publications on the socialist construction in each country and campaign for peace and against the arms race. [Text] [BK281146 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 24 Nov 82]

CSO: 4200/169

TWO NEW MINISTERS IN MALDIVES CABINET

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 17 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

Maldives' President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, who has completed four years in office, has added two new Ministers to his cabinet and made some major changes in his administration, aimed at streamlining the administrative set-up and gearing up for faster economic and social development, the Maldivian High Commission said yesterday.

Two new ministries have been created for Trade and Industries, and Planning and Development. No minister is yet named for Planning and Development.

Mr. Ilyas Ibrahim has been appointed Minister of Trade and Industries in addition to his post of Deputy Minister of Defence and National Security. The President holds the portfolio of Defence and National Security.

Mr. Ahmed Muju-thaba, former Director of Tourism and Investment and deputy chief of the state-owned Maldives Shipping Ltd.,

has become the Minister of Transport and Shipping.

The Ministry of External Affairs has been re-designated as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Pathulla Jameel continues as minister.

President Gayoom's cabinet is now formed of the following: Messrs Ahmed Hilmy Didi — Agriculture; Abdul Sattar — Fisheries; Pathulla Jameel — Foreign Affairs; Mohamed Musthafa Hussain — Health; Mohamed Zahir Hussain — Education; Abdulla Hameed — Atolls Administration; Ilyas Ibrahim — Trade and Industries; Ahmed Muju-thaba — Transport and Shipping.

Mr. Ibrahim Shethab has been appointed the Speaker of the Ottomans' Majlis (the parliament) while the former Speaker has been now made a Minister of State (without portfolio).

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAY BE SET UP

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 10

[Text]

Plans are afoot to set up a US chamber of commerce in Pakistan to promote understanding between traders of the two countries, Miss Katheryn Young, Director, South Asia Desk of the US Chamber of Commerce, said during a meeting with the Vice-President and members of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry yesterday.

A South Asia Desk has recently been created in the US Chamber of Commerce, she stated. Over 45 such chambers had already been set up outside the US, she added.

Miss Young, who arrived in Karachi yesterday from Bombay, said that her visit was part of the US Chamber's drive to establish closer links with US companies working abroad.

The Chamber, planned to be set up, would provide information to American investors and businessmen about the investment climate and other opportunities available in Pakistan, she observed.

In reply to a question, Miss Young said she was not in a position

to make any firm promise about American investment in Pakistan because her visit was mainly for two objectives: to discuss possibility of setting up of US Chamber in Pakistan; and, secondly, to establish direct links between the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry and US Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Direct dialogue between the business communities of the two countries was the need of the hour, she pointed out.

She said the US Federation members included 240,000 big and small companies.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr R. David Brantley, US Commercial Secretary, who was also present, said that the visit of US investment mission had yielded positive results as two major American companies, Chase Manhattan and Ford Motors were already making investments in Pakistan.

Mr Tariq Saeed, Vice-President of FPCCI, explained the working of the Federation and other regional chambers.

CSO: 4200/141

EXPANSION IN MASS MEDIA COOPERATION WITH UAE DISCUSSED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 4

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 17: The possibilities to further expand the existing cooperation between Pakistan and UAE in the field of mass communication were discussed at a meeting held here today between the visiting UAE delegation led by Mr Abdullah Al Nuwais, secretary, Ministry of Information and Culture, government of UAE and federal secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Lt-Gen. Mujib-Ur-Rahman Khan.

In the meeting certain specific areas of cooperation in the fields of radio, television and print media between the two countries were discussed and identified.

The two sides agreed that regular contact and liaison should be maintained for the implementation of programmes of cooperation between the mass media of the two countries.

In order to have bilateral cooperation between the TV organisations of the two countries it was decided that TV programmes might be exchanged between the two countries. It was further decided that the UAE TV would supply recording of programmes based on major important events in the history of Muslims.

The meeting was informed that the UAE Television would send its Production Unit to Pakistan to produce a documentary film on Pakistan for exhibition from the UAE Television network. It was also agreed that the Pakistan Television Corporation would exchange technical personnel with the UAE Television.

The cooperation and collaboration between the radio organisations of the UAE and Pakistan was also reviewed in detail. It was agreed that the two radio organizations would jointly or separately produce programmes dealing with various facets of Islamic ideology and history. It was further decided that there would be exchange of technical and production personnel on regular basis. The meeting decided that Radio Pakistan and Radio Abu Dhabi would broadcast programmes on national days, events of national significance of the two countries and about heroes of Islamic history.

It was also decided that exchange of visits of the journalists between the two countries should be encouraged as it would promote understanding between the peoples of Pakistan and the UAE. [as published]

Gen Mujib

Earlier, welcoming the delegation, Pakistan Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting said that the cooperation in the field of mass media between the two countries had been going on for a number of years and further expansion in this field could play an important role in bringing the peoples of the countries still closer. He said there were many avenues in this field where further cooperation could be expanded and enlarged. He expressed the hope that the current visit of the delegation would help increase the cooperation between the two countries in the field of mass communication.

The leader of the UAE delegation Mr Abdullah Al-Nuwais said that wider and larger cooperation between the media of the two countries was imperative and in the interest of the Islamic world. He said Pakistan and the UAE would have to strive jointly for preserving our cultural heritage and religious character. He said that a UAE team would shortly visit Pakistan to select TV documentaries and plays for showing these in the UAE.--APP

CSO: 4200/132

NDP LEADERS SAY BALUCHISTAN NEEDS SPECIAL ATTENTION

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12

[Text]

QUETTA, Nov 16: Two prominent leaders of the defunct National Democratic Party, Haji Ghulam Mohammed Bilour and Mr. Mohammad Afzal Khan, have stressed the need for general elections under the 1973 constitution and taking people into confidence in solving the problems confronting the nation.

They were talking to newsmen here on Monday night.

Haji Bilour and Mr. Afzal Khan, the party's General Secretary and member of the Central Executive respectively, are currently on a visit to Baluchistan to revive contacts with old friends and colleagues.

They said much more attention was needed towards removing the backwardness of the province and the sense of deprivation among the people of the area. They suggested special quotas for the students from Baluchistan in technical colleges and improvement in the con-

dition of roads in the interior of the province.

Baluchistan, they thought, required special attention for its development and said if that was not done development would remain lop-sided.

The defunct NDP leaders said that democracy the panacea for all ills in the country and added that democratic rights should be restored to the people without delay so that national cohesion could be brought about in Pakistan.

They pleaded for the restoration and strengthening of the four pillars of the State, namely independent judiciary, powerful legislature, free Press and effective and competent administration.

Haji Bilour and Mr. Afzal Khan demanded immediate release of all detained leaders and workers, including Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Miss Benazir Bhutto and Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan.

They also demanded release of arrested lawyers.

PAKISTAN-ROMANIA JOINT BODY HOLDS MEETING

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov 16: The 8th session of the Pakistan-Romanian Joint Governmental Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation opened in Islamabad this morning with both sides expressing the resolve to improve existing cooperation between the two countries as well as find new avenues of mutually advantageous collaboration in the field of industry and trade.

Opening the session, the Federal Finance Minister Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, remarked that Pakistan highly valued her relations with Romania and it was her earnest endeavour to further develop the cooperation on the basis of the memorandum of economic, technical and scientific cooperation signed between the two governments in pursuance of the instructions given by the Presidents of the two countries after President Zia's visit to Romania during January this year.

Replying to the remarks of the

Finance Minister, the leader of the Romanian delegation Mr Gheorghe Caranfia, Minister for Chemical Industry, observed that his delegation has come to Pakistan with the conviction that the two countries could have an arrangement whereby the already existing collaboration between the two countries could be further enhanced to bring them still closer.

The Commission during the present session would:

Review the implementation of the decisions incorporated in the memorandum of economic, technical and scientific cooperation and the protocol of the 7th session.

Consider steps required to be taken for early implementation of the projects at present under execution or negotiations.

Review the existing state of trade between the two countries and consider ways and means for its further expansion, and signing of the protocol for the 8th session.—APP

CSO: 4200/141

CRISIS IN TEHRIK-I-ISTIQLAL RANKS REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12

[Text]

LAHORE, Nov 16: The crisis in the ranks of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal continues to brew and indications are that some more active members and office-bearers of the party may either attract disciplinary action or decide to quit on their own.

Mr Ehsan Ahsan, a prominent member of the National Committee of the party, who issued a strong statement questioning and criticising the expulsion of the Information Secretary, Mr Nafees Siddiqui, from the primary membership of the organisation without giving him proper opportunity to defend himself, has been summoned to Peshawar by the acting chief of the party, Mr Munir Shah and Secretary General, Mr Mushir Pesh Imam and would be proceeding to the NWFP capital tomorrow.

Indications are that he would be asked to explain his position before a charge-sheet was issued to him. In the meantime the Tehrik leader from Baluchistan, Mr Khudai Noor discussed the party affairs with Mr Ahsan this evening.

It may be added that following the action taken against Mr Siddiqui, notice has also been issued to the acting Secretary-General of the NWFP Tehrik, Mr Yunus Khan while a central councillor from Quetta, Agha Farooq Shah, has already tendered his resignation from the party to register his protest.

Another significant development is that quite a few office-bearers are openly debating the issue in the Press columns without bothering to wait for the decision of the central working committee on the subject.

PRODUCTIVE, FRUITFUL USE OF REMITTANCES URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

DURING the past three years remittances from overseas Pakistanis have just about succeeded in keeping the country's current account deficit from crossing the danger mark. But this seems to be about all the hard-earned petrodollars of the overseas Pakistani workers have done for the country. Most of this income has been wasted on conspicuous consumption and in economically unproductive avenues such as real estate speculation. As a consequence, the rate of inflation has gone up. If the declining trend in the inflow of remittances being observed lately begins to snowball, things are likely to become tougher for the managers of our economy because the current account gap will assume a menacing aspect.

The Planning Commission is reportedly undertaking an exercise to identify avenues for productive utilisation of the remittances. This was long overdue. But one would have expected our planners also to find out the reasons for the decline in the inflow of remittances and take steps to tackle the problem. Contrary to the belief held by some circles, the development activity going on in the Middle East and the Gulf is yet to reach its peak. According to a recent UN study, the demand for overseas workers in the

Middle East is estimated to increase by about 15 per cent annually during the next ten years. This means the Middle East manpower market is expanding and not shrinking. If this is so, how does one explain the decline? The answer to this question lies in the expanding population of Thai, Filipino, Korean, Indian, Sri Lankan and Bangladeshi migrant workers in the Middle East. While the workers from Far Eastern countries have cut into the share of Pakistani workers in the market owing mainly to their superior skills, higher efficiency and better discipline, the demand for workers from Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh has increased because of the lower salaries they accept. Further, the malpractices indulged in by many Pakistani recruiting agents have made a contribution of their own. Some Pakistani recruiting agents allegedly go to India and arrange for supply of cheaper Indian labour in partnership with their Indian counterparts.

The planners must address themselves to these and other causes of the decline and come up with some sound answers. They must have a strategy to face the competition from overseas workers from the other Asian countries. As for plans for productive utilisation of the remittances, it must be recog-

misled that the attempts so far made in this connection have been guided by conventional wisdom. Reliance has been placed on offering attractive financial instruments which promise reasonable returns to the investors. These instruments have, in fact, attracted the savings of educated salaried persons in the taxable income brackets who were enlightened enough to see the advantage. But this is incomprehensible for the majority of Pakistani overseas workers, most of whom belong to the rural areas, largely unfamiliar with commercial banking. Many of them are sceptical of all impersonal instruments of investment. Add to this the associated complexities and red-tape involved in making use of these instruments, and even the educated overseas workers would be found avoiding contact with them. This phenomenon is effectively illustrated by the extensive resort to the Hundi system.

It is indeed logical to expect that these overseas workers and their dependents should think of using their surpluses for financing civic amenities like potable water, schools, health cover, etc. But so far this has not happened. It is also logical to expect that many emigrant workers have given a thought to creating conditions for self-employment on their return. But this, too, does not

appear to have happened in any significant way. This state of affairs exists not because there is any lack of motivation on the part of overseas workers but because of the unwillingness of the administration to respond to the new challenge. The rigid adherence to rules and regulations, made under a different set of circumstances and for different kinds of people, have tended to thwart the efforts of even the most enterprising among the emigrant workers to improve the living conditions in their villages and to set up small-scale enterprises in their areas. Every form of developmental enterprise is controlled by the Government and approval is subject to long-winded procedures and exasperating delays. No doubt, the Government does not possess sufficient infrastructural facilities to match the financial resources available with the emigrant workers for investment. So, it is reluctant to remove the controls on these facilities. But this reluctance is diverting precious financial resources towards unproductive channels.

We need a grand national strategy offering small investment packages which not only fit into the overall development programmes but also fulfil the immediate needs of the rural economy, besides ensuring a reasonable margin of profit for the investor within a

reasonable period of time. These investment packages should be easily accessible to emigrant workers in their countries of employment and also at those places from where these emigrants come. An intensive campaign should be launched to introduce these packages. Again, these should be auctioned to the highest bidder to inculcate a sense of competition. Once an intending investor has bought the package, he should be allowed to launch it without any further delay or formalities. Since these packages will finance civic amenities and contribute to literacy, employment and social uplift, the investors should not be burdened with taxation. With the channelling of the remittances into productive avenues, the advancing tide of black economy would also recede automatically, while schools, hospitals, playgrounds and more employment opportunities in the rural areas would promote contentment and reduce crime. In July next year the Sixth Five-Year Plan is expected to be launched. So, this is the time to give serious thought to the problem of siphoning wayward capital off into productive channels and generating capital out of surplus labour. The authors of the Plan should approach the problem with a sense of enterprise and urgency and handle it imaginatively.

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVATE COLLEGES RECEIVED

Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 4

[Text]

The Directorate of College Education, Karachi, has so far received 20 applications for the opening of private colleges in the city.

The Directorate is issuing forms to the applicants and the last date for this is fixed as Nov 22.

On receipt of the application forms, the Directorate would form an Inspection Committee to visit the premises of the proposed colleges to ascertain whether they fulfil the requirements and submit its report to the Director.

The information sought by the Directorate for the registration of a private college, among other things, includes the proposed date of establishment of the college; category i.e. arts/science/commerce/home economics, for boys/girls, intermediate/degree (part I/part II), subject and groups to be taught; financial position, quantity and details of furniture; accommodation; details of laboratories and library; hours of work; time table (teacher and class-wise); tuition fee; admission fee; details of all other fees charged un-

der different heads; sources of income; status of the building i.e. rented or otherwise, qualifications, pay and allowance and terms and conditions of service in respect of each member of the staff including non-teaching staff.

Certain certificates are also required to be submitted with the application form. These include a certificate from the applicant that no member of staff of any Government college and/or Government school has been employed to work in the college; Certificate of Registration issued by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies under the Co-operative Societies Act; a statement of initial expenses and sources and recurring expenses and sources; statement of donation received from the life and other members of the Society, endowments and gifts received; a certificate of reserve fund as a fixed deposit; a certificate to the effect that salary of the college staff for at least one year has been kept as a fixed deposit (not the reserve fund) and the building plan showing constructed portion.

TRADE WITH NEPAL TO GROW

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 10

[Text]

The President of the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr. Pashupati Giri, has called for augmenting trade between Pakistan and Nepal by overcoming the hurdles in transit and transport.

He was speaking at a meeting held with the visiting 10 member Pakistan trade delegation in Kathmandu, according to a report received in Karachi.

He said that the possibilities of expansion of trade between the two countries had increased following the signing of trade agreement last July which provides for most favoured nation treatment to each other. He said that the present industrial policy of Nepal offers special facilities to attract foreign capital in joint venture areas in Nepal.

Leader of the Pakistani delegation, Haji Razak Janoo said that wide areas of trade and joint ventures existed between Pakistan and Nepal.

He said that it was essential to study the prospects of Calcutta port route, passage through Chalna and Chittagong of Bangladesh and the route to Pakistan via India in this regard. He added that charter flights between Nepal and Pakistan would also facilitate exchange of goods between the two countries.

Haji Razak said that while Nepal can export to Pakistan jute, jute goods, cardamom, ginger, dry ginger, catechu, herbs, pulses, tea, she can import from Pakistan machinery and equipment, light engineering goods, cotton yarn, ready made garments, bicycles and sports goods.—APP.

CSO: 4200/142

ZIA-INDIRA SUMMIT REVIEWED

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 9

[Commentary by A.T. Chaudhri: "Looking Back at New Delhi Summit"]

[Text]

As a witness to the brief Zia-Indira summit, which came as a prologue to the President's "sentimental journey" through the new world of South-East Asia, one could see signs of thaw at the not-so-cold peaks of the Indian capital.

The very trek to the elusive summit — a sort of dress-rehearsal for another fullfledged summitry — which was undertaken by the ageing Mrs. Indira Gandhi with reluctant, mincing steps — marked the breaking of ice in the long haul towards the sub-continental dialogue.

While the dialogue was in progress, an eminent Indian columnist told this correspondent: "Your President is the best P.R. man in Asia, he has at last won recognition from Indira." The import of this stray remark should not be lost on the Cassandras who doubted if democratic India will ever have a deal with a military junta, next door, on the outlawry of war. India has now apparently realised that it has no option but to deal with Pakistan, rather than allow things to drift and let events take their own course.

That in a way explains why President Zia found Prime Minister Gandhi "more flexible" than before — not the "iron-lady" he had first encountered at Salisbury (Harare), a couple of years ago. So, in the "heart-to-heart" talk — an exercise in confidence-building — he

took time by the forelock and made some one-sided "concessions." Allowing her to take public credit for initiating the face-to-face dialogue, he accepted her proposal for setting up a joint Indo-Pakistan Commission. (Pakistan has this type of linkage with 20, or so, friendly States, and India with over 50 countries in the East and the West).

Another concession, which was already on the cards, was the signing of a protocol by the two sides for the exchange of their nationals under detention and search for defence personnel — 270 in the case of Pakistan — missing since the 1971 trauma. This has been followed up by lowering trade barriers and re-introducing the private sector in the two-way trade traffic, though the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) would still take the biggest slice of the cake.

It was also a sort of concession on the part of Pakistan not to raise the Kashmir issue at the mini-summit. President Zia held the Kashmir card close to his chest. Before embarking on his eastward journey, he had taken the Kashmiri leaders — including Sardar Qayum who is under detention — into confidence, assured them that they would be consulted when the settlement procedures laid down in the Simla Agreement were set in motion and there would be no deviation from the principles of settlement outlined in the relevant U.N. resolutions.

It is not clear what Mrs. Gandhi has up her sleeves. Discerning observers in Delhi say that she is itching

ing to turn the Line of Control into an international boundary. For the time being, however, she considered it prudent not to touch upon this subject. Both sides appear to have agreed not to get their fingers stung with the Kashmir nettle, until other outstanding problems are resolved. Critics might say that this is a reversal of Pakistan's pre-1971 policy of staying normalisation in the sub-continent until the Kashmir issue was put out of the way. But critics should not forget that complex constraints operate in international affairs:

Hijackers

Pakistan and India appear to have tacitly agreed to live with the Kashmir problem, rather than make it a stumbling block in the way of normalisation. Hence, the mutual endeavour at the Delhi summit to remove minor irritants. For instance, India felt sore that the Sikh hijackers in Pakistan's custody have neither been extradited nor tried in an open court. Pakistan told India that there was no extradition treaty between the two countries and that an open trial of the hijackers would flood the world media with Sikh slogans of sub-nationalism. Islamabad would not like to add fuel to the fire of Sikh agitation. So a trial in camera would be in India's own interest.

As a quid pro quo, New Delhi has to put an end to the infiltration of terrorists — reportedly trained by the Soviets in Kabul — who sneak into Pakistan via India. New Delhi has also to remove training camps, if any, for terrorists on the India soil. This sensitive issue was discussed by the Foreign Office with the Indian Ambassador in Pakistan

shortly before President Zia's peace mission to India and there are indications that it has now been sorted out. That is a by-product of the Delhi summit.

Among other by-products, one might mention the exchange of views by the leaders of the two countries on the Afghan crisis and other regional and global issues which are likely to come up at the seventh NAM Summit. The very fact that President Zia briefed Mrs. Gandhi on his talks in Beijing and both tried to look upon major world issues from the horizon of South Asia is significant. Competent sources claim that one of the upshots of the Zia-Indira summit is that the clouds of suspicion and distrust have been partly dispelled and the divergent perceptions of security in South Asia have begun to converge on several points. (That is why the two sides did not like to dilate on their respective acquisition of arms).

No wonder, the nodal point of the brief but wide-ranging dialogue in Delhi was the accord between the two leaders to take up the draft of a no-war-pact and the counter-draft of the Tread of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation and hammer out an amalgam of the rival drafts before the follow-up of the summit next March. This may appear to be an exercise in reconciling the irreconcilable, but given goodwill on either side and the new climate of confidence, it may be possible to strike an accord.

Pakistan will now have to persuade India to drop certain provisions in its draft in which the concept of bilateralism has been overstretched and this country has been asked to commit itself in the prop-

osed compact that it will not grant bases to any foreign Power or fall in line with any regional strategic consensus. This is what non-alignment is all about and Pakistan's contention is that it will not take any step that might detract from the pristine principles of non-alignment, but it cannot accept a neighbour's "diktat" which is derogatory to its sovereignty.

Pakistan also feels that the term, "foreign bases", must be redefined, for India has already granted naval facilities to the Soviets in some of its ports. Moreover, if India seeks to foreclose Pakistan's options as a sovereign State to the detriment of its national security, it amounts to extending Indian hegemony over a neighbour and keeping it within its gravitational pull. This cannot be.

Again, if India is really anxious to evolve common security perceptions in South Asia, it must begin by withdrawing the bulk of its 25 army Divisions which are concentrated barely 15 miles from the Indo-Pakistan border.

Seen in this context, it may be difficult to find a common denominator reconciling the divergencies of the drafts of the No-war-pact and Tread of Peace and Friendship. The diplomatic ingenuity of the Foreign Secretaries of Pakistan and India will be strained to the dregs when they sit down next month to give a concrete shape to the new mandate given them by their governments. But the new wind blowing across the sub-continent, after the Delhi summit, raises the hope that a new leaf may be turned in the chequered history of this tormented region.

FAILURE TO PROMOTE LOCAL TECHNOLOGY CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

A RECENT report indicated that the Appropriate Technology Development Organisation has developed a number of technologies in collaboration with PCSIR, and these are being tested at present, or are being promoted to consumers. These include mini-hydel projects, fruit and vegetable dehydration, generation of electricity from bio-gas and low-cost housing. Several advantages over the existing technologies are claimed: for instance, that by adopting the construction methods developed by ATDO savings of 30 to 80 per cent can be achieved when compared to conventional construction processes. While normally all this would have been cause for rejoicing, it is not so in this country. Just about all one can be assured of is that ATDO has not been wound up, but still exists to laboriously carry out its experiments, which appear to lead nowhere. And ATDO spokesman has given some details of utilisation of the work done by his organisation, and they make for pitiful reading. In all the years of its existence an organisation which must have started out with such hope has hardly made any impact and few people are aware that it has been attempting to do useful work.

This holds true not only of ATDO but of other such organisations in the country — PCSIR itself being one prominent example. It extends in a slightly different fashion to private organisations, sometimes one-man affairs, which have come up with better and indigenous ways of doing something, or have managed to produce something which, perhaps with some polishing, can replace expensive imported gadgets. In the case of public sector research organisations, it is really surprising that they have not stopped to ponder why so few of their efforts or 'inventions' have come off the drawing board. PCSIR, for instance, regularly comes up with products which it claims to be near-miracles, the most recent being a concentrated type of fertiliser, but for some reason they just do not gain commercial acceptance and very few of them are chosen by entrepreneurs for manufacturing purposes. Research organisations spend a lot of money on projects that do not lead anywhere ultimately, but in this case, it is the finished products which are not gaining acceptance — which is a cause for concern.

Part of the reason may no doubt be that the processes or products developed by such or-

ganisations are not practical for manufacture or for application: it may quite possibly be that the low-cost houses designed by ATDO have a defect, minor or major, which makes them unacceptable. In this case, the entire process should be thoroughly examined, and a survey be undertaken to determine what it is that people dislike about it, so that the defects may be removed. All this, however, presupposes an active government interest in such plans and a willingness to do something about it. This, at least as far as results are concerned, does not appear to be the case. Government support for such products is, for some inexplicable reason, limited to financing organisations like ATDO, with very little effort and expense expended towards demonstration through prototypes and later towards the ultimate goal — popularising the products or processes among the people. There must be some serious rethinking at the top levels about such practices, for they are wasteful and deprive the country of the use of its talent and resources. The same indifference is present, in a slightly modified form, where the private sector is concerned. There are so many things that are manu-

factured, wholly or partly, in the country but competing imports are still permitted. Local manufactures should be promoted through all means even though they may be slightly inferior in quality but of a comparable price to begin with. This includes protection from imports since even when locally manufactured items are selling at a lower price than imports, they are at a big disadvantage because of the established reputations of many of the imported products. In some cases, of course, imports may be very slightly more expensive or may even be cheaper, which is due to the sometimes weird duty structures thought up by officials. Some may remember that a while ago a slogan was being pushed very hard: 'be Pakistani buy Pakistani'. Slogans alone never did any good, as we know to our chagrin. If the Government means business, then it should examine the many areas in which Pakistani products or processes can replace imported ones. It should actively support the work of research organisations, finance the making of prototypes for demonstration, control imports to protect local products from unfair competition and, above all, promote local talent so that it can come up with more manufactures.

ISLAMIZING THE JUDICIARY: OFFICIAL'S REMARKS DEBATED, DISAGREEMENT EXPRESSED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 11 Nov 82 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] When a Chief Justice of a High Court certifies that the judiciary in Pakistan enjoyed all those powers to which this institution should be entitled in a civilised set-up and an Islamic society, it must be so and the fact has to be accepted. Dr. Justice Javed Iqbal, acting Chief Justice of Lahore High Court, while confirming the above fact also declared that during the last 12 years of his association with the judiciary as a High Court Judge, he had never experienced any interference from any Government. We are particularly pleased to note that the existing judicial system in Pakistan, as stated by Justice Javed Iqbal, is in conformity with the principles laid down in the Holy Quran.

However, in the same interview the Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court has narrated the opinion of "the great political thinker" Al-Mawardi that opposition

to government engaged in enforcing Islam in the society was punishable. It is our respectful submission that reference to Mawardi in the context of Quranic principles in modern society and particularly to the view referred to by the Chief Justice, is unfortunate and is liable to be misinterpreted. It is very likely that an impression may gain ground that the Hon. Justice Javed Iqbal subscribes to the view of a political writer like Mawardi who belonged to the decadent period of the Abbaside caliphate. Mawardi had propounded that any person or group of persons who came to occupy the seat of authority in any part of the caliphate, and vowed to rule according to the precepts of Islam and professed nominal allegiance to the Caliph in Baghdad, should not be opposed in the larger interest of the Millat and those doing so were liable to punishment. This view was expressed

in the circumstances of the time when the Abbaside Caliphs were not in a position to enforce their authority over those who seized power by force in their areas. This situation will be clearly understood by the people in our country if we say that Mawardi lived and wrote when the authority of Abbaside Caliphs was comparable to that of Delhi during the decadent Mughal period in the sub-continent. We may recall that the great Imam of that time, Shah Waliullah, had asked Ahmed Shah Abdali to come and discipline the Marhataas.

In the context of modern times and more particularly in our situation when one talks of enforcing Islam, the question arises: Whose Islam i.e. whose interpretation of the Quranic principles of Islam? In the Quran are laid down the principles of Islamic behaviour in all walks of life. And since Islam is a religion for all times, Musalmans are

free to live and benefit from the experience gained through development of education and society but always in conformity with Quranic principles. The rub lies here. It is the interpretation of principles that has created schisms in Islam.

Now we not only have the followers of Fiqah-e-Maliki, Hanafi, Sha'faee, Hambli and Jafri — and the list does not end here — but there are other groups and sub-groups like Wahabis, Ismailis, Bohris, and Ahl-e-Hadis, Bareilvis, Deobandis, etc., divided to the extent that they would

not pray in one another's mosque or accept Imamah in prayers of one not subscribing to their interpretation of what Islam is.

Currently, our present Government is determined to enforce Islam. The sincerity of the present Head of State in this regard is beyond doubt. No one from amongst the defunct political parties and in opposition to Martial Law, has cast doubt on President Zia's sincerity in this regard. However, neither Jamaat-e-Islami nor Jamiat-ul-Ulma-e-Islam, Jamiat-ul-Ulma-e-Pakistan or its sub-groups, the vari-

ous groups of Muslim League, or the Khaksars, or the Jamaat-e-Ahl-e-Hadis or the followers of Fiqah-e-Jafria, accept unreservedly all that is said and done in the name of Islam by the present regime.

Unfortunately, all these elements are today generally described as opposition to the present Government which is without doubt engaged in enforcing Islam in the Pakistani society. We deliberately refrain from spelling out the implications of Justice Iqbal's reference to Ma-wardi's opinion.

WORKINGS, FACILITIES OF A REFUGEE VILLAGE REVIEWED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 9 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Annick Billard]

[Text] To get an idea of the sheer size and gravity of the Afghan refugee problem in Pakistan, there is probably no place that is more suitable to visit than Barakai, located in an arid region of Pakistan, not far from the Afghan border. This year, no fewer than 127,000 Afghan refugees are living in thirteen camps spread over an area of somewhat more than 100 hectares, separated from each other only by artificial and, so to speak, imaginary administrative boundary lines. They are in fact all part of the same large refugee area.

The thousands of tents making up this vast refugee area began to spring up out of the desert in the course of 1981. Little by little, the refugees managed to erect their own structures separated by little walls of "katcha" (backed clay) marking off the space reserved to each family group. Within the boundary of its own plot, each "family", consisting of men, women, children, cousins, uncles and other close relatives, began to organize life on its own.

On this barren land it was necessary to construct an entire city, with its houses, bazaars, mosques, plots for growing food. When you walk between the walls of "katcha" separating the houses, your feet sink into the sand, and the slightest puff of wind preceding a storm raises clouds of dust—a reminder, if one were needed, of the fact that the desert is always present. In an attempt to forget this, water is brought in and stored. The needs of the camp are covered by 22 water storage tanks that have been installed until now. People have even begun to cultivate small gardens. In the refugee villages dotting the frontier zone in the Northwest small vegetable gardens have sprung up, lending a touch of green to the brownish-yellow camp surroundings. On this rough and inhospitable terrain, people grow whatever they can. At this moment in late September, it is mainly cucumbers that can be seen clinging to the walls of "katcha" or in the small court-yards.

At the same time Barakai has been witness to the creation of community facilities and services, giving the place a less temporary character. In

particular, schools have been set up. In each of the thirteen camps, from 250 to 300 children, both boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 12, attend school every morning, except Friday. The schools, which are very basic in nature, are each surrounded by a little wall of "katcha" to protect them against bad weather, and covered by a tent. Each class has at least 40 children and very often more; however, they are anxious to learn, and apply themselves to the task with great enthusiasm. They learn the Quran, and in some schools they have courses in mathematics, the geography of Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as courses in history. In addition, they learn the Pushto language, which is their own, and which is also spoken in this region of Pakistan. They also learn some Uzbek and some English. Naturally, most of the pupils are boys. Nevertheless, there are certain courses for girls, and some classes are mixed.

Dispensaries were also set up very quickly by non-governmental organizations such as Union Aid and the Austrian Relief Committee in order to prevent and fight epidemics that are likely to arise without warning. The possibility of an epidemic is almost an obsession wherever there is a large concentration of refugees such as the one at Barakai, and it is certainly one of the things most to be feared. So far, the apprehension has not turned out to be justified in any part of the large camp, and this is cause for great pride on the part of the Pakistani Government. Zuber Ali, one of the Directors at the Pakistani Information Ministry, pointed out to me that there had been "no epidemic, no major friction with the local population", and that "the living conditions of the refugees are satisfactory."

In addition to the setting up of an infrastructure for the area, bazars and small business have been created in each quarter, resembling a great deal those that are found everywhere else in this part of the world. There is one difference to be noted, however, and that is the fact that they often had to be created from scratch. There was no question at all of taking up the family business again. They had to settle for the most appropriate activity under the circumstances. Little by little, therefore, and depending upon the circumstances, the refugees opened up hardware, butchery and grocery shops, tailor and watch repair establishments or workshops for the manufacture of rugs. The Pakistani authorities view benevolently the initiative taken by the refugees to find activities in which they can gain a livelihood. The Governor of the frontier region of the Northwest refers to these occupations as "revenue-bringing activities." He adds that this expression was chosen on purpose in preference to that of "self-help". "We consider this term to be too abstract" he says. Indeed, it is merely a question of finding a means among others of earning a bit of extra money for the family livelihood while awaiting a more permanent solution.

While these bazars may seem to resemble a great deal the ones found throughout the Middle East, there is one respect in which they are unique: no women are to be seen in them at all; it is the men who sell, select, bargain over prices and purchase. As a result, the only objects found are those used by men, including masculine attire.

Barakai is the largest of the 300 refugee villages set up by the Pakistani Government with the assistance of UNHCR in 1980. UNHCR provided financial assistance totalling \$74 million for the entire province in that year. In 1981, a total of \$109,500 million was disbursed. For 1982, \$51 million has been allocated during the first six months. The World Food Programme and charitable organizations are also making a very important financial contribution.

CSO: 4200/132

COLLEGE OF OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROPOSED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 13 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] Admiral Karamat Rahman Niazi, Chief of the Naval Staff yesterday strongly advocated for the establishing of a college of ocean science and technology to undertake teaching and training in three main subjects--namely marine geology and geophysics, hydrography and f'sheries technology.

He was speaking at the opening session of the first six-day US-Pakistan workshop on Marine Sciences in Pakistan on the second day yesterday. Admiral Niazi presided over the second days opening session.

Admiral Niazi lamented that availability of funds and trained manpower in Pakistan were two causative factors which obstructed Pakistan efforts for exploitation of living and non-living resources from the sea.

He said that Pakistan's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) is reasonably large. So far, he said, the zone had remained untapped despite its geographical location, geophysical features like the Induscone and ideal oceanic climate for development and sustenance of living resources like fish.

Admiral Niazi said that there was a definite need to train and educate a large number of personnel in various disciplines of marine sciences. Obviously, he said, Pakistan could not afford to send all of them abroad at phenomenal costs and therefore, the country had to start its own educational institutions of marine sciences.

Admiral Niazi said that our intention should be to make a small beginning by establishing a college of ocean science and technology to undertake teaching and training in marine sciences. He hoped that the participants from the United States Science Foundation would look-into-the possibility of help they could extend to Pakistan for setting up such a college in this country.

The Naval Chief stressed that Pakistan Navy provided an impetus for development of marine sciences for a national cause. He recalled that the subject of oceanography in the United States was initiated by the US Navy and now that country had a full fledged department of oceanography, called the Naval Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. He regretted that in

Pakistan sea is not familiar, and coastal people who are in touch with the sea are not socially developed.

Navy's Contribution

Admiral Niazi stressed Pakistan Navy's "useful contribution" to development of oceanographic activity in Pakistan. He said: "We would be glad to provide whatever assistance may be needed by the scientist community to generate interest in off-shore projects for exploitation of marine resources in our EEZ and even help to provide some assistance in the establishment of a college of ocean sciences and technology."

He said that in fact the Department of Hydrography of the navy had been of assistance to the National Institute of Oceanography in the past and hoped that Pakistan Navy could play a vital role in the establishment of a college of ocean sciences and technology in the future.

Later, a number of papers were read on various subjects of marine geology and geophysics and physical and chemical oceanography by eminent marine scientists and expert oceanographers from various universities of the United States.

Dr. M. A. Kazi, Presidential Advisor on Science and Technology was prominent among those who attended yesterday's opening session.

The workshop inaugurated here on Thursday has been jointly sponsored by the Washington-based National Science Foundation and the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Pakistan and is being hosted by the National Institute of Oceanography, Karachi.

About 25 oceanographic experts each from the United States and Pakistan are participating in the workshop, along with some observers from Turkey, England and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).--APP.

CSO: 4200/132

RECONCILIATION COURTS FOR MINOR CASES

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 19 Nov 82 p 9

[Text] Federal Local Bodies Minister Syed Fakhr Imam has said the establishment of reconciliation courts will go a long way in resolving minor criminal and civil cases at the local level quickly.

He was speaking at the concluding session of the two-day reconciliation courts conference here yesterday. The Minister said the Reconciliation Courts Ordinance of 1961 has been amended to streamline the procedure of the reconciliation courts set up in the province of Sind.

He made it clear that there is no conflict whatsoever with the normal laws, and the reconciliation courts will be dealing with the minor cases. The cases of serious nature, such as murder, attempt to murder etc. will be dealt by the courts under the normal procedure.

The Minister said, according to Hamood-ur-Rehman Commission Report, the reconciliation courts had been very successful. He expressed the hope that the revival of these courts will produce positive results.

He said if any of the litigants is not satisfied with the chairman of the reconciliation court he can refer the matter to the controlling authority for the change of court.

He further said the elected councillors will be the chairmen of the courts.

/He dispelled the notion [as published] that an uneducated chairman of the reconciliation court will not be able to give correct judgement. He said these courts will be dealing with simple and minor cases and the councillor of the area will be in a better position for having knowledge of each and every minor case of his area and thus he will be able to give correct verdict./ [in boldface]

Earlier, Mayor Abdus Sattar Afghani welcomed the chief guest and highlighted the purpose of the conference.

Later, Mr Fakhr-i-Imam met the delegates to the conference at the civic centre.

Legal Advisors

Another report adds.

The Chief Justice of the Sind High Court, Mr Justice Abdul Hayee Qureshi, has proposed the appointment of a legal advisor for every eight to ten reconciliation courts.

Addressing the third session of the two-day Sind reconciliation courts conference here yesterday, he said the appointment of legal adviser will help secure proper judgement in complicated cases. He said the reconciliation courts should pass correct and quick judgements to the entire satisfaction of the concerned parties.

Local Bodies Polls

APP adds.

Exchanging views with the chairmen of local councils drawn from different parts of the province at the KDA's Civic Centre, Mr Fakhr Imam said the Government was fully determined to hold Local Bodies elections in 1983. However, no firm date had so far been fixed, he added.

Referring to rumours and speculations by certain elements about elections of Local Bodies, he said that such rumours were being spread to confuse the elected councillors. He said these were the people who had faced defeat in the last elections or who do not have hope of winning a seat in future.

He said the Government had no intention of appointing administrators in place of elected representatives in the Local Bodies institutions and they will continue to perform their responsibilities till the next elections.

Some council chairmen informed the Minister about the difficulties faced by them in resolving the problems relating to WAPDA, Railways, Telephone and Telegraph, National Identify Card etc.

The Minister assured them that he would talk to the concerned Ministers in this regard. In this connection a delegation, led by the Mayor of the Karachi will also visit Islamabad to talk to the concerned authorities.--
PPI/APP.

CSO: 4200/132

MUSLIM LEAGUE TO STEP UP EFFORTS FOR UNITY

GF271730 Karachi DAWN in English 23 Nov p 1

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 22 Nov: The working committee of the defunct Pakistan Muslim League, at a meeting presided over by Pir Sahem Pagara here today, resolved that "efforts to unite the political parties should be continued, and the Pakistan Muslim League should play an active role in this regard."

Announcing the decisions of the working committee to newsmen later, Mr S. M. Zafar said, the committee was of the view that "the prevailing situation in the country will not improve until the general elections were held." The committee, he added, empowered Pir Saheb to follow up the recent abortive attempt to hold a round-table conference of politicians with a suitable course of action.

Questioned by newsmen later, Pir Saheb said, the Muslim League would soon present a resolution conforming to the nation's aspirations, which would be drafted keeping in view the thinking of the other parties and at [the] same time keeping it within the cover of the Muslim League's original resolution on the subject. It would be made "very moderate" and announced at a suitable time, he added.

Pir Saheb vehemently denied that the responsibility for the failure of Maulana Noorani's efforts to convene a round-table conference lay on the Muslim League, and asked why the other parties did not sit in the proposed conference even if the Muslim League did not join it. The Muslim League could not sign a document which it had not even seen or touched, he added.

Asked if he would meet the president during his current visit to Islamabad, Pir Saheb said: "He is flexible, and we are bound by principles. There is no meeting point."

Questioned about the president's promise to announce the framework of the new system of government on 14 August next year, Pir Saheb said: "You must have misheard it. He did not mention the year."

CSO: 4200/179

HIGHWAY TO BOOST BALUCHISTAN'S ECONOMY

GF301346 Karachi DAWN ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS REVIEW SUPPLEMENT in English 28
Nov 82 p 1

[By Siddiq Baluch]

[Text] The RCD [Regional Cooperation for Development] highway linking Karachi via Quetta with Zehedan—the capital of the Iranian Province of Sistan va Baluchestan is one of the biggest projects creating an infrastructure in Baluchistan aimed at bringing a change in the social and economic life of the province.

The 842-mile long road runs through the mineral-rich regions of Ras Koh Range, the Chagai Hills and the central mountains range of Baluchistan. The proven mineral wealth—only partly tapped and exploited—includes onyx, marble, copper, iron ore, sulphur, besides dozens of other minerals in areas close to the RCD highway.

Recently, another big reserve of natural gas has also been discovered in a field in the Ras Koh Range, the gas field is very close to the RCD highway and is considered equal in terms of the reserves to the one found at Sui in the Bugti Tribal Belt in early 1950s.

The biggest copper and iron ore reserves were found in Saindak, Pachin Kaur and Chil Kaur areas, which were also linked with the RCD highway through katcha roads [dirt roads].

Major parts of the fruit growing regions of northern Baluchistan, including the Quetta Valley, are also linked with the RCD highway and their products are being marketed in Karachi, thanks to the highway. Besides fruits, vegetables in the "off season" and the surplus vegetables from the hilly regions of Sarawan, (Jhalawan), and the Lasbela Plains are also being brought to Karachi through this highway.

The opening up of the regions, which were previously closed geographically, to wider market places, particularly Karachi, has benefited sellers as well as buyers. The marketing of vegetables in "off season" has guaranteed a regular flow of supplies to Karachi which has an unlimited market for primary products.

The flow of vegetables from central Baluchistan and Lasbela Plains has ensured comparatively stable prices for growers in this area. A good return to growers in the areas, which remained neglected for a long time, in turn, provides incentive to even those agriculturists who were reluctant to bring barren lands under cultivation. The demonstration effect of this process--selling of vegetable from a once closed region to a newly linked-up wide market has motivated people in the region to tap water resources and bringing neglected land under cultivation. This could as well led to overall development and progress in Baluchistan.

Previously, the prices of vegetables and fruits remained generally unstable in Sarawan and (Jhalawan) regions and producers were compelled by the unpredictable market forces to sell their products at throw-away prices in the limited market. Sarawan being close to Quetta Calley is relatively better placed but (Jhalawan) and other areas which were not linked up with any market, big or small, were worst affected. Frequently agriculturalists in these areas had to face total loss of all their products simply because they found no buyers.

In the absence of a wider market or higher scope to sell their products, owners of agricultural and in these regions, despite having reasonable capital at their disposal, were reluctant to undertake farming on a large scale. They produced what they needed locally. Occasionally, they even gifted their surplus to avoid its damage or destruction in the absence of storage facilities. The tremendous loss of human labour and scare agricultural inputs kept the region undeveloped and poor, in comparison with other parts of the country. Now the situation is changing.

With the extension of the national grid to Sarawan and up to Kalat, and the availability of power agriculturalists have been encouraged to sink more and more tube wells in Kahnak, (Mustang), (Mounghcher) and Kalat and to undertake more profitable farming operations by producing vegetables and fruits for wider markets. One can see hundreds of tube well lights for over a hundred miles from Kahnak to Kalat--indicating a higher level of economic activity in the once hilly and barren regions of the province.

The building of approach roads of these farms has made the operations profitable. The scheduled extension of the national grid up to Khuzdar via Bela in 1985 will complete the circuit of electrification of the central parts of Baluchistan. The stronghold of tribal influences and traditions.

With the completion of the project for electrification of the entire central part of Baluchistan--according to which the KESC [Karachi Electric Supply Corporation] grid will be taken up to Khuzdar, which will be linked with the national grid of WAPDA [Water and Power Development Authority]--the RCD highway will come to play an even greater role in the development of the province.

In the upper reaches of the RCD highway--at Uthal, Bela, Khuzdar and finally Quetta--one can now see a number of fish stalls which have come up recently. The fish from the Lasbela coastline are being taken to these stations in the hope of getting better prices. The public transport vehicles are also taking seafood up the hills northwards and westwards, as the bigger market of Karachi is monopolised by the big operators who manipulate the prices at their will.

finding better prospects for their fish catch, people of small fishing stations of (Gaddani), Sonmiani and (Damb) have diverted their supplies. Fishermen with small catch are booking space in the public transport vehicles in a bid to sell their catch in those areas. The availability of ice has ensured preservation of the seafood for over 24 hours.

The entire flow of commercial goods between Karachi and Quetta, and farther to the West and to areas close to the Iranian border, has shifted from the Karachi-Quetta route via Jacobabad to the RCD highway because it is shorter in distance. The reduction of over 142 miles in the distance makes a vital difference in playing the vehicles, conserving costly energy and saving time.

The number of bus plying between Quetta and Karachi via the highway, is now estimated at over two dozens. This is believed to have affected the passenger traffic of the Pakistan railways. The actual impact on the Pakistan railways remains to be determined but the highway has facilitated the people who travel between Karachi and Quetta and who can now reach Quetta from Karachi in less than 12 hours.

There is one aspect of RCD highway which needs attention. It is its proper maintenance, in the absence of which the condition of the road has deteriorated. For most of its length, the highway remains a 12-foot wide black-topped road. It has been widened to 24-feet only between the (Gaddani) shipbreaking yard and Karachi.

The sides of the highway have been eroded after recent rains and only occasionally has the road been repaired by the highway department. A number of causeways which collapsed in recent rains, are being repaired but only the stretch over which the dignatories pass appears to be receiving attention while the rest of the area is left unattended. The main bridges on the highway, now complete, need building of approach roads.

Since the RCD highway is taking the bulk of the road traffic in Baluchistan it needs to be further strengthened and widened into a 24-ft black-topped road, enabling vehicles coming from opposite direction to pass without involving and risk to human life and property.

CSO: 4200/179

CHINESE TEAM VISITS AFGHAN REFUGEES

Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov 21: The visiting nine-member Chinese delegation, led by Chinese Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Lin Hu-jia, flew in here from Islamabad this morning from where it was driven straight to Nasir Bagh Afghan refugees tentage village.

At the airport the delegation was received by Senior NWFP Minister Arbab Mohammad Jehangir Khan.

Mr. Lin, while talking to Afghan refugees, said the valiant Afghans had repulsed the expansionist designs of the Russians with courage and would surely emerge triumphant in their just struggle which enjoyed full support of the world community, including China.

He said his country fully realised the miserable conditions of the Afghan refugees who had been driven out of their homeland.

He said the foreign interven-

tion in Afghanistan had no popular support, and added that the invading forces had received big blows through heavy casualties of their troops at the hands of Afghan fighters.

The Chinese Minister said the whole world was anxious to see the people of Afghanistan again a free and self-determined nation and supported their struggle.

He said China would continue to extend moral and material support to them until the aggressors were driven out and the refugees were able to return to their homes.

Mr. Lin praised the Government and people of Pakistan for helping and sheltering Afghan refugees.

The delegation also drove through the Khyber Pass and had a view of Pakistan-Afghan border from the Michni post. PPI

MINISTER ON BUFFER STOCK OF WHEAT

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 19 Nov 82 p 8

[Text] A "national food security reserve" is being built up in a planned and methodical manner, and as of May 1982 a 1.65 million ton buffer stock of wheat has been stored in godowns throughout the country, Federal Agriculture Minister Vice-Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua said here yesterday.

Talking to newsmen at Karachi airport, he said over the past three years the wheat storage capacity had been doubled, and by the end of the next harvesting season four million tons of covered godown space would be available to store this commodity.

Similarly, he continued more godowns were being built to store rice, and the Railway and National Logistic Cell authorities were drawing up a joint programme to move newly harvested rice quickly from the fields to the storage areas after it had been procured by the government from the farmers.

Regarding the prospects for the wheat crop, he said the recent rains had brightened the picture.

Sowing in the barani regions was already underway, and was

about to begin in the irrigated areas, he added.

As far as rice was concerned, he remarked that the crop position was good, and the end of the prolonged drought period in July, 1982 had raised expectations that the target production figure of 3.4 million tons would be met. He said about one million tons of rice will be exported during this financial year.

Vice-Admiral Janjua said a "very good" cotton crop was expected during 1982-83. And he hoped that the "very ambitious" record 4.8 million bales target production figure would be achieved.

Turning to sugar, he said the 1982 production figure for this commodity was 1.3 million tons, a substantial rise over the 1981 output was 850,000 tons.

Noting that the national requirements for rationed sugar was 850,000 tons, he said the government policy was to make this amount available to the public at the normal subsidised rate of Rs 7 per kilogram, sell some of the surplus produce in the open market, and store the remainder as a buffer stock.

He said due to the international recession and depressed prices in foreign markets it was not profitable to export sugar this year, but as soon as the picture improved exports would be feasible.

He declared that the Government planned to encourage higher sugarcane production and increased output of processed sugar by providing incentives to both farmers and mill-owners. Besides, the Government wanted more sugar mills to be established in both the public and private sectors.

He stated that other agricultural sectors to which the Government was paying attention are dairy products and oil seeds.

He said the government policy was to remove rural poverty by assisting small farmers with holdings of below 12½ acres (who constitute 70 per cent of the cultivators) to boost their produce and thus increase their earnings.

Pakistan had recently begun exporting a variety of agricultural commodities, including rice, vegetables, fruit and fish, he said.—APP.

CSO: 4200/132

MINISTER SAYS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION CAN BE TRIPLED

Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 5

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov 21: The perceived potential for agricultural production in Pakistan is three times more than the actual performance as regards agricultural production. It is the Government's strategy in the field of agriculture to close this performance potential gap.

This was stated here on Saturday by the Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Vice-Admiral Mohammed Faisal Janjua, during his meeting with Chinese agriculture delegation, led by the Minister for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery, of the People Republic of China, Mr. Lin Hu Jia which met him here.

Minister of State for Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mir Zafarullah Jamali; Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Saeed Ahmed Qureshi, and Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Mr. Amir Mohammad Khan were also present during the meeting.

The Minister said that the performance-potential gap would be reduced by undertaking research, giving purchase price incentives, better availability of basic agricultural inputs and necessary institutional re-adjustments.

The Minister further stated that the essential aim was to improve the quality of life through increased agricultural production. Such an increase is being brought about by suiting agro-technology to the requirements of the small farmers, who are the artery of our

agricultural set-up, he added.

The Minister told the delegation that the Government was also making earnest endeavours to reduce the gap between policy formulation and implementation in order to match deeds with words.

The Minister pointed out that the small farmer had been associated with the Government efforts to increase agricultural production, besides, other measures of national development through Local Government institutions.

He further said that great emphasis was being laid on improving the quality of seeds and increasing per acre yield.

Earlier, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Mansur Ahmed, gave an overall view of the agricultural policies of the Government of Pakistan and the organisational framework for the planning and implementation of these policies.

He also dealt with the measures taken and steps on the anvil to achieve national agriculture policy, objectives. He also briefed the delegation on the Government's future development strategy as regards agriculture.

Secretary, Economic Affairs Division, Mr. Ejaz Naik also spoke during the meeting and dealt with the utilisation of external assistance received for agricultural projects.

Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission, Mr. Shafi Niaz presented a brief resume of the Government's pricing policies. —APP

BRIEFS

SOVIET COMPOSER VISITING--Islamabad, Nov 21--Mr Shalva Davidov, a Soviet composer, is currently visiting Pakistan under the Pakistan-Soviet cultural exchange programme. He arrived here today on a three-day visit of the federal capital. His visit in Pakistan is being arranged by Idara Saqafat-i-Pakistan. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 1]

LAWYERS TO BOYCOTT COURTS--Rawalpindi, Nov 21--The lawyers community in Rawalpindi and Islamabad would boycott courts tomorrow to press for the acceptance of their demands, according to a decision taken today at a joint meeting of the District Bar Association, Rawalpindi and High Court Bar Association, Rawalpindi, and Karachi Bar Association. The meeting assured full support to the Karachi lawyers, especially to the office-bearers of the Karachi Bar Association. The meeting in a resolution urged upon the Government to restore the 1973 Constitution, hold immediate elections, undo the amendments made in the Bar Council Act, release political prisoners and lawyers and maintain only civil courts.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 1]

PUNJAB UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS DEMANDED--Lahore, Nov 21--The Nationalist Students Organisation (NSO) has demanded the resignation of the Vice-Chancellor of Punjab University, accusing him of adopting a partial attitude towards the Islami Jamate Tulaba. The organisation has decided to convene a convention of progressive and liberal students with a view to making their unity more effective. This was stated by the leaders of the NSO at a Press conference today. The student leaders alleged that for the last few years the Punjab University had become a scene of lawlessness spread by the IJT. The NSO leaders said elections of the university students union were due next month and any "rigging," as was done in the elections last year would not be tolerated now by the progressive students. The NSO leaders also expressed their concern over the decision to readmit three rusticated students of the National College of Arts and supported the demand to expel all three of them. Iftikhar Shahid, Chairman NSO and other members of the organisation jointly addressed the Press conference. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 4]

SINDHI WRITER'S RELEASE DEMANDED--Hyderabad, Nov 21--The 5th annual conference of the Central Sindhi Shagird Tahreek, which met at the Tandojam Agriculture University today demanded immediate release of Mr Rasool Bux Palejo, a known Sindhi writer and advocate and student leaders Suleman Dahri and Asad Gadhi and others. The conference was presided over by the newly-elected President of the Tehreek, Mr Sohbat Ali Burro. The conference called for withdrawal of rustication orders of the students, end of martial law and holding of general elections, acceptance of lawyers' demands and release of all arrested advocates. The conference further demanded declaration of public holidays throughout Sind on the occasion of the forthcoming Urs of Shah Abdul Lateef Bhital. It also demanded lifting of Press censorship, acceptance of journalists demands, withdrawal of Martial Law Regulation 53 and 54. The conference was also attended by representatives of Sindhi Mazdoor Tehreek, Sind Hari Committee, Sujag Bar (Children) Tehreek, Baloch Students Organisation, Pukhtoon Students Federation and Azad Students Organisation. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 4]

CHINESE VEHICLES FOR REFUGEES--Islamabad, Nov 21--The Red Cross Society of the People's Republic of China has donated four vehicles, along with spare parts and tools for use by the Government of Pakistan in the humanitarian assistance programme for Afghan refugees. The keys of the vehicles were handed over to the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees, Brig (Retd) Said Azhar, by China's Consul Tien Ting here this morning. The 4-wheel-drive vehicles which have been donated through United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will be used for the medical services for the Afghan refugees in the NWFP. The deputy chief of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees's mission in Pakistan was also present at the handing-over ceremony. PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 4]

LAHORE STUDENTS DEMONSTRATION REPORTED--Lahore, Nov 21--A peaceful protest demonstration was held by the students of the National College of Arts for the third day against the decision of the college authorities to reduce the expulsion period of three Islami Jamiate Tulaba students of the college allegedly charged with gross indiscipline some time ago. The protesting students blamed them for dragging the college into politics and vitiating the college atmosphere through their extra-curricular activities. The President of the College Students Guild, Raza Ali, and Social Secretary Imran Poshni, told newsmen that they have appealed to the Governor of Punjab to save the college from political interference.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 4]

MAHBUBUL HAQ'S TRAVEL PLANS--Islamabad, Nov 21--Dr Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, said here today that his coming visit to the United States would be primarily to join the Presidential delegation from Dec 6 and before that to speak to various American audiences on Pakistan's new economic strategy and issues for the Sixth Plan. Dr Haq, who will attend GATT Ministerials talks in Geneva from Nov 24 is due to arrive in Washington on Nov 27, eight days ahead of President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq's official visit to the United States at the invitation of President Reagan. He will join the President's delegation to the United

States and later to Canada. In reply to a question, he told "Dawn," although he would take the opportunity to meet World Bank officials in Washington as well, he carried no brief for seeking international assistance for Pakistan's Sixth Plan. He pointed out that the plan was still under formulation and its objectives and requirements remained to be firmed up. However, Pakistan's general economic situation is likely to come up during his meetings with the World Bank officials, he said. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 82 p 12]

AL-ZULFIQAR MAN'S ARREST REPORTED--Islamabad, Nov 16--Rawalpindi police on Tuesday held one Abdul Hameed for his alleged involvement in subversive activities. Abdul Hameed, a resident of Ganj Mandi, was reportedly a member of the Al-Zulfiqar organisation and was wanted by the police for his involvement in some major cases. A police party on Tuesday raided his house following a tip and arrested Abdul Hameed. His elder brother Rashid had already been arrested by the police on same charges. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 1]

GOVERNOR ON BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT--Quetta, Nov 16--Baluchistan Governor Lt-Gen Rahimuddin Khan has said the Government has carried out massive development works in the province during the past five years and added that those who did not believe it should visit the interior and see for themselves the development projects so far completed. He was addressing councillors and elders at Mastung and Kharan. He said the Government had mobilised all available resources for development and referred to various projects which had been undertaken in fields of water, power and road communications. He said supply of gas to Quetta would start after the completion of the project to be inaugurated in the first week of January next year. Besides Quetta gas would be supplied to nine towns lying between Jhatpat and Quetta. This project, he added, involved an expenditure of Rs 70 crore, half of which was in foreign exchange. He said that question of extending gas transmission lines to other areas of the province would be examined at a later stage. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 5]

PDP PASSES RESOLUTION--The defunct Pakistan Democratic Party (Sind) at its Executive Committee meeting in Karachi yesterday said that an early transfer of power through elections to the elected representatives of the people would help Pakistan meet the challenges within and from across the border. A resolution adopted at the meeting demanded release of all political leaders and labour and student representatives and urged that the grievances of doctors, lawyers and workers should be recressed expeditiously. The Sind PDP meeting was presided over by Mr Mushtaq Mirza. Those present included Mr Ali Mukhtar Naqvi, Mr Alauddin Munshi, Dr Allah Rakha, Mr Khalid Farouqi and Rao Mehdi Hasan. Meanwhile, the MRD's Karachi Division branch held a meeting at the residence of Mr Mahmudul Haq Usmani with the current month's convener, Mr S.M. Altaf in the chair. It also

passed similar resolutions in addition to a demand for removing restrictions on the movement of party leaders from one province to another. The lawyers' present struggle was supported by both the bodies. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12]

DETAINEES FREED--Sahiwal, Nov 16--Six detenus were released from the Central Jail, Sahiwal, including a local journalist Rashid Akmal. Others were Aftab Chaudhry, Allah Dad, Inayat Ansari, Rana Aish Mohammad and Nazir Ahmad. All were detained under MLO 12 and were released by the orders of the DMLA Multan.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12]

PPP STEERING COMMITTEE--Begum Nusrat Bhutto, Chairman of the defunct Pakistan People's Party, yesterday formed a 12-member Steering Committee to look after the party affairs during her absence abroad. The committee comprises Miss Benazir Bhutto, Shaikh Mohammad Rashid, Mr Farooq Leghari, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, Mr Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, Mr Abdul Hafeez Pirzada, Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, General (retired) Tikka Khan, Mr Aftab Sherpao, Maj-Gen (retd) Nasirullah Khan Baber, Shaikh Mohammad Rafiq and Mr Khalid Khan. The party meetings will be presided over by Miss Benazir Bhutto and in her absence, by Sh. Mohamad Rashid. Mr Jatoi will represent the defunct PPP in the MRD meetings. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 1]

GHAFOOR CRITICIZES RESTRICTIONS--Islamabad, Nov 19--Prof Ghafoor Ahmad, a leader of defunct Jamaat-e-Islami said today the externment of politicians of one province from the other should be stopped as it would harm the country's solidarity. Instead, he said, they should be punished within the province where they were accused of committing any offence. Talking to newsmen here, the Jamaat leader said political parties were like oxygen which was vital to human life. He said the people in Pakistan had immense love and regard for the Armed Forces which, he feared, could be shattered if their rule in the country continued indefinitely. Prof Ghafoor said the Government had failed to fulfil the promises it had made. The first promise, he said, was of election which he felt would not be fulfilled "in the near future." Similarly, accountability of bureaucracy and reconstruction of society which had been promised by the Government were now a "closed chapter." Because of this situation the nation was in the grip of utter confusion, he added. The Government, he said, must assure the nation that it still stood by its earlier promise to hold elections. He denied that there was any rift within the Jamaat, and alleged that the Government was trying to divide the party. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 4]

TRADE WITH HUNGARY--During the last two fiscal years of trade with Hungary the balance of payments was in favour of Pakistan. During the year 1980-81 Pakistan's exports to Hungary was valued at Rs 345 million and in 1981-82 it stood at Rs 208 million--Rs 109,096 and Rs 89,755 higher than the exports from Hungary. According to a trade survey report by the Hungary Embassy in Pakistan, the balance of trade was in favour of Pakistan for five years during the last decade. It said that the present barter protocol

concluded on March 19, 1982 stipulates a turnover of 35 million dollars each side. Pakistan is in a position to offer manufactured and semi-finished goods to Hungary. The increase of deliveries from Pakistan has been facilitated by extensive tariff preferences. Under the Hungarian system of preferences, the duty concessions are afforded unilaterally to Pakistan. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 10]

JUI LEADERS' RELEASE URGED--Peshawar, Nov 19--Aftab Ahmad Khan Shehrpao and Maj-Gen (Retd) Nasirullah Khan Babur, the President of defunct NWFP PPP and the former NWFP Governor in their separate statements have expressed their resentment and anguish over the detention of a prominent leader of defunct Jamiat-i-Ulema Islam and the head of Jamia Ashrafia, Peshawar, Maulana Ashraf Ali and demanded his immediate release. The defunct Jamiat-i-Ulema Islam, Peshawar, has expressed its deep concern over the detention of Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Maulana Ashraf Ali Qureshi and Maulana Obaidullah and has demanded their immediate release. The Jamiat also expressed its resentment over the contents of a letter sent to Maulana Ashraf Ali Qureshi and Maulana Yusuf Qureshi terminating their services as Imam and Khateeb of two prominent mosques of the city.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Nov 82 p 12]

MONTHLY FORFEITED--Lahore, Nov 16--The Government of the Punjab has declared all copies of the Urdu monthly "news bulletin of Al-Zulfiqar" of May/June 1982 forfeited to Government with immediate effect. The said Urdu monthly contains objectionable material under Clause (1) of Section 24(1) of the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance, 1963.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Nov 82 p 12]

MORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTES FOR SIND--Two more Government polytechnic institutes will be set up in Sind each at Dadu and Mirpur Khas by next year. This was disclosed here yesterday by the Director of the Technical Education, Sind, Mr Inamul Haq, while addressing a Press conference in connection with the announcement of the admission policy of the Government polytechnic institutes in Sind. Mr Haq said that land for the proposed polytechnic institutes it was being acquired and added that the classes in the proposed polytechnic institutes would begin from the session of 1983-84. [as published] He also disclosed on the occasion that a proposal was being actively considered for reserving 10 seats in each technology of the polytechnic institutes in Sind for those who had, at least, three years industrial experience and were between 25 to 40 years of age but did not possess diploma. He said another scheme of introducing evening classes in the Government polytechnic institutes was being prepared by the Directorate of Technical Education, Sind, and would be presented to the Government for its approval soon. However, students of the evening classes courses would be awarded diplomas after four years, Mr Haq added. [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 19 Nov 82 p 10]

CSO: 4200/132

CARDINAL SIN SEEKS DIALOGUE WITH MARCOS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Mel Parale]

[Text] Jolo, Sulu, Nov. 17--Gen. Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief of staff, said today that Jaime Cardinal Sin has sought a meeting with President Marcos on the case of priests being hunted for alleged violation of security laws.

Ver said the President has accepted the Cardinal's proposal but that the meeting will have to be held on or after the arrival of the First Lady, Imelda R. Marcos, from abroad.

Ver, who came here to assess the security situation in the South, said Cardinal Sin appeared to be under pressure from Church officials to make a stand on the actuation of priests who have left their parishes to engage in activities against the government.

At least one priest, Fr. Zacarias Agatep, has been killed in an encounter with government troopers in Ilocos Sur.

Intelligence operatives estimated that about 20 priests and nuns have left their posts to join subversives.

Ver said the proposed dialogue is likely to include other matters connected with Church-government relations.

Church officials have complained that the government is persecuting church leaders. This was denied by Ver, who said that Church-AFP relations have "remained cordial."

Ver said that church officials have refused to place under their custody certain priests in the government's wanted list.

He said among the wanted priests is Fr. Conrado Balweg from Kalinga-Apayao who was reported leading a band of rebels operating in the North.

Balweg was reported last seen clad in combat uniform and armed with a service pistol and armalite.

Ver did not give the reason for the reluctance of church officials to place under their custody the wanted priests.

Under a Church-military agreement, any priest or nun arrested for subversion may be turned over to his Church diocese provided that the Church official concerned shall be responsible for the escape or any untoward acts of the suspect.

CSO: 4200/135

FIRMS WARNED ON DELINQUENT TAXES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 82 pp 1, 16

[Text]

Customs Commissioner Ramon J. Farolan summoned yesterday the owners and top executives of 20 companies and asked them to settle their accounts in unpaid taxes worth nearly P1 billion as soon as possible or face closure as well as court action.

Farolan made the move in compliance with a directive of President Marcos to collect outstanding obligations in the form of duties and taxes from various business corporations involved in the withdrawal of goods from customs bonded warehouses without payment of corresponding customs duties.

The bureau of internal revenue also mobilized yesterday its fieldmen to carry out the President's order to collect all tax debts of big taxpayers.

Revenue Commissioner Ruben B. Ancheta and Revenue Deputy Commissioner Romulo

M. Villa held closed-door session with close aides and fieldmen, including directors and service chiefs, to map out their strategy against tax evaders.

Those summoned and warned by Farolan represented companies whose liabilities account for approximately 85 per cent of the estimated P1.1 billion debt they owed the government.

Besides these companies, other big corporations have also been put on notice by the President who, in a related directive, ordered the bureau of internal revenue to collect unpaid taxes accumulated due to the failure of these corporations to declare foreign exchange for several years.

The government estimated that for the last several years, these corporations have earned several billion dollars which have been misdeclared or under-declared. The

estimate of unpaid taxes cases in these instances is about P1 billion.

Pursuing a hard line against these companies and corporations with huge tax liabilities, the President ordered both the bureau of customs and the BIR to raise at least P2 billion out of these collectibles and to prosecute those who continue evading payment of taxes.

Ancheta said examiners will be authorized to look into the statement of assets and liabilities filed by taxpayers in 1981.

To discover foreign currencies sailed abroad, Ancheta directed the audit division and revenue attaches to examine all records of foreign exchange transactions entered into by Filipinos and resident aliens with their foreign counterparts.

Insiders said many businessmen were able to hoard money abroad by overpricing their

imports and under declaring the value of their exports.

To intensify the tax collection efforts, Ancheta also ordered:

1. The stepped-up filing of fraud cases and issuance of seizure orders on properties of delinquent taxpayers.

2. Around-the-clock watch on liquor and cigaret factories to closely monitor payment of specific taxes.

3. The intelligence division to intensify the drive against the use of fake revenue stamps on liquor and cigarets.

4. Continued crack-down on commercial and service establishments which are not issuing sales invoices.

5. The withholding tax division to go after withholding tax agents not remitting on time the taxes they have withheld.

CSO: 4200/136

CENTRAL BANK CURBS NEW SHORT TERM FOREIGN CREDITS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Nov 82 p 22

[Text]

The Central Bank is trying to guard against the possibility of a balloon payment in the future on the country's short-term foreign debt when it clamped down the other day on new short-term foreign credits by local borrowers.

Saying that a balloon payment may be possible from unrestricted renewals of revolving short-term credits, the CB acted to check renewals of revolving credits as well as approvals of new ones.

Under existing policies, the CB follows a ceiling of \$1.2 billion in 1982 for new revolving credits. However, renewals of such credits are not charged against this ceiling.

The CB recognized that renewals of revolving credits actually extend the credit float and cause over-

laps, resulting in the build-up of short-term loans.

It said that such resulting build-up, while having a neutral effect on the balance of payments, may have serious repercussions on the BOP in the future when the credit is finally paid.

From the point of view of debt management, the CB has now actually controlled revolving credits as well as including the same in the annual ceilings.

For firms which have existing revolving credits but could no longer be renewed on account of the new ceiling, they may have to be required to infuse additional equity to finance permanent increases in working capital.

At the same time, available revolving credit facilities will have to be carefully

rationed among legitimate users.

To be qualified to avail of revolving credits under the new policy, a firm should have adequate working capital to meet permanent business requirements.

Based on the outstanding short-term foreign debt of \$3.7 billion, about 98 per cent or \$3.62 billion are revolving credits, and about half of which, or \$1.795 billion are with the public sector.

The outstanding public sector revolving credits consisted of oil import financing for the PNOC, \$1.15 billion or 64 per cent; bridge financing/re-financing for DBP, NPC, NIDC, NDC, Philsucom and PAL, \$477.8 million or 27 per cent; and grain importation for the NFA, \$167.9 million.

TROOP PULLOUT ORDERED INVESTIGATED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile ordered yesterday an investigation into the reported pullout of government troops in barangay Guinamangan, Conner, Kalinga-Apayao without approval from higher-ups.

He issued the order to Gen. Fabian Ver, Armed Forces chief of Staff.

Enrile issued the order after news reports said the pullout of Army soldiers in the area had forced residents of the place to evacuate en masse.

The pullout, the reports said, was made "to ease tension in the area." However, the reports did not say what the tension was.

The villagers feared elements of the Army detachment in the area headed by one Sergeant Lubuegen.

Lubuegen and his men allegedly beat up six residents who they reportedly caught carrying unlicensed firearms.

Meanwhile, 253 hardcore members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) surrendered to General Ver recently.

The surrender took place in Jolo, Sulu during General Ver's visit there Tuesday.

The surrenderees said they were tired of fighting "a useless war," according to the Armed Forces' public information office.

Among the surrenderees were 10 MNLF commanders operating in Sulu and Basilan.

The former rebels yielded 181 high-powered guns, including a recoilless rifle, a .30 caliber machinegun and rifle grenades.

CSO: 4200/136

MILITARY RETIREMENT SCHEDULE STAYS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 10

[Article by Jose De Vera]

[Text]

Gen. Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, has announced that the retirement schedule of "extender" generals will not be disturbed.

He said "extender" generals must have to go when their reextension expires, except for a few whose separation would be a disadvantage to the government.

The exception applies to commanders of major AFP commands and physically able commanders of unified commands.

Ver was interviewed aboard an Air Force plane that ferried him to Zamboanga city from Jolo, Sulu, on his way back to Manila last Tuesday.

He was asked about the alleged demoralization in the AFP on account of too many "extender" gener-

als, particularly in the Constabulary.

The alleged demoralization reported in a regular column of a morning daily, was based on a supposed letter to the President.

In the past three or four years, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, President Marcos, and Ver, have repeatedly announced that ranking but subordinate officers were being trained to take over from retiring generals.

Officers qualified for promotion were aware that it was not advisable then to "change horses mid-stream" because of martial law necessity.

This has been removed with the lifting of martial law, an interview pointed out at

the in-flight press conference.

The Armed Forces high command has formed a super-committee to look into the possible causes and study possible solutions to the breakdown of morale and discipline in the AFP.

General Ver said he has asked the committee to form subcommittees to go out to the field to hasten its work of tracing the causes of breakdown of morale and discipline.

In addition, the AFP chief said, he also asked the body to study the feasibility of organizing a "rehabilitation battalion" or a unit where erring or undisciplined personnel could be consolidated for retraining.

FRATERNITY LINK WITH RADICALS SEEN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

Campus fraternities were reported yesterday to have linked up with radical student organizations, prompting security officers to alert their forces in colleges and universities.

Reports reaching the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports (MECS) said leaders of two volatile campus segments have been holding clandestine caucuses and using telephones to map out their strategies.

MECS authorities said a "tight watch" has been placed on six big educational centers where the radicals the "frat men" were described to be most active in the Metro Manila area. "We have strong reason to believe that the increasing abuse of addictive drugs has something to do with this new development," said Dr. Jesus Johnson of the Phi-

lippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU).

Director Alexander Villalon, Jr., of the Youth Action Development Organization (YADO), said training has been intensified on law enforcement and drug prevention

among members of the 15,000-strong student contingent. He said this is in line with the provisions of the new National Service Law.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin Vallejo, head of the Metropolitan Citizens Training Command, said the YADO, which falls under his jurisdiction "is the only readily mobilizeable youth group for campus action today."

The tie-up of the radical and "frat" fronts "seems to be a new development and should not be encouraged," Johnson said.

Dr. Amado C. Dizon, PACU executive vice president, called the attention of school officials and student leaders on their duty to maintain peace as delineated in the Education Act of 1982, holding both responsible for any outbreak of disorder or violence in the campus. He cited new agreements which have kept government law enforcers outside of school premises and assigned student security to civilian units employed by universities and colleges.

Under the agreements, state forces are to be called, or would force themselves in only when disorder becomes uncontrollable and civilian security units are unable to cope with the situation.

CSO: 4200/136

UNIDO EXPLAINS TURN TO RADICALISM

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 82 p 36

[Article by I. S. Chammag]

[Text]

BAGUIO CITY, Nov. 15 — Radicalization of moderate oppositionists and the religious sector has been gaining momentum due to lack of genuine reforms for the people.

This was the message of Batangas Assemblyman Salvador H. Laurel, president of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), at a people's congress held here yesterday.

The congress of 3,000 delegates from Regions I, II, and III, was organized by former Vice Gov. Pablito Sanidad of Ilocos Sur.

Laurel said that 70 per cent of the radicalized oppositionists are in the hills. The rest are now under the UNIDO umbrella, trying to institute honest political and economic reforms, he said.

The UNIDO has come up with proposals aimed at preventing "useless bloody confrontations," he said.

These include a revamp of the Comelec, the abolition of block voting, and the creation of a preparatory committee to reorganize the political system.

The other speakers at the rally were: former Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, Fabian Sison of Pangasinan, Constitutional Convention delegates Ramon Encarnacion and Rebeck Espiritu, Wilson Gamboa and Tony Gatmaitan of Visayas, Leoncio Alangde of Benguet, Joseph Humiding of Ifugao, and Reynaldo Cortez and Benedicto Carantes of Baguio.

TEXTILE FIRMS PRESSED ON DEBTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Bureau of Customs said yesterday it has to collect some P520-million in unpaid duties and taxes for imported textile materials, which were illegally withdrawn by 20 textile companies from their bonded warehouses.

Commissioner Ramon J. Farolan said these outstanding debts were unpaid for one to two years despite repeated demands by the bureau. He said the firms' warehousing privileges were suspended and their current importations being held by the bureau to compel them to pay the government.

The back accounts are among those included in the P1.1-billion which the customs is now trying to collect as earlier directed by President Marcos.

The tax payables of the textile companies, Farolan said, account for about 60 percent of the estimated P850-million in unpaid duties of the bonded warehouse operators.

The firms were allowed to operate CBWs, which are usually inside their factory, to enable them to have easy access to imported raw materials for their continued operations.

The materials, conditionally released from the piers tax and duty-free, are kept in the warehouse under customs supervision, Farolan said.

While inside the warehouse the operators release the raw materials with the connivance of customs personnel assigned at the CBW, Farolan said. Because of this irregularity, some 1,000 CBW storekeepers are now being investigated by the bureau. Twenty-five of them were already suspended and charged administratively, he said.

Farolan said the textile company with the biggest back taxes is Imperial Textile Mills, which owes P104.5-million as of the first quarter of 1982.

The others are Riverside Mills Corp., with P80.2-million; Solid Factors, P79-million; Columbia Textile, P54.3-million; Alfa Integrated, P41.3-million; United Textile Mills, P31.6-million; Grand Textile Mills, P21.9-million; and Eastern Textile Mills, P16.6-million.

Twelve other textile companies--General, Filipinas, Litton, Central, Universal Robina, Silangan, Lirag, Universal Tricot, Unisol, Universal and Pioneer--owe the government back taxes amounting from P13-million to P2-million, he said.

FUNDS FOR RICE PURCHASE RELEASED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] President Marcos released yesterday P500 million to enable the government to buy palay at P1.70 per kilo from hard-pressed farmers who are selling to merchants for as low as 90 centavos.

Private traders taking advantage of the bumper crop have been cornering the palay surplus at prices that they can dictate because many farmers need money.

The National Food Authority said rice millers and traders who persist on buying palay from farmers at prices below the government support price of P1.70 per kilo will be blacklisted.

The NFA said blacklisted millers and traders will not be allowed to borrow from the quedan financing program, or awarded milling contracts by the NFA.

Blacklisted millers and traders also face cancellation of their licenses depending on the gravity of their offenses, the NFA said.

The President directed NFA and agriculture officials to meet with private rice traders to see to it that the buying price levels are kept.

Agriculture Minister Arturo R Tanco has reported to the President that as of last week, palay was selling at P1 per kilo in Cagayan Valley and 90 centavos per kilo in Central Luzon.

The NFA buys 10 to 15 percent of rice crops directly from the farmers, while private traders buy the remaining 85 percent.

The NFA has announced that more buying stations will be opened soon to accommodate farmers in various regions. The NFA operates some 600 buying stations.

With the fielding of more personnel to these stations, the NFA said that, as of last week, it has bought about 6.5 million bags of palay valued at P514 million.

CSO: 4200/135

PHILIPPINES

JEEPNEY STRIKE LEADER CHARGED WITH SEDITION

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 11 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] Manila, Nov. 10--(PNA)--Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile today said the leader of a jeepney drivers association who is under detention has been charged with inciting to sedition.

Medardo Roda, chairman of the Pagkakaisa ng mga Tsiperat Operators Nationwide (PISTON), was arrested on Sept. 9 by virtue of a Presidential Commitment Order. He was earlier reported detained without charges filed against him.

Enrile said a preliminary investigation of Roda was conducted by the Quezon City Fiscal's office before the formal charges against him were filed on Oct. 26.

The criminal case is entitled "PP vs Deogracias P. Espiritu, et. al" for inciting to sedition.

Roda's continued detention at Camp Crame is based on the PCO issued on Aug. 31, according to Brig. Gen. Samuel Soriano, assistant secretary of defense for legal affairs.

The group of Espiritu was found to be an affiliate of the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), a labor union tagged by the military as a front organization of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

CSO: 4200/134

ARCHBISHOP SALVADOR URGES CAUTION ON ABUSES

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 11 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] Cebu City, Nov. 10--(PNA)--Archbishop Manuel Salvador, Central Visayas chairman of the peace and order council, today urged priests not to be too hasty in using the pulpit as an anti-government forum.

He called on members of the clergy to first verify reports and seek a dialog with authorities before taking to the pulpit to denounce any military abuse or government irregularity.

Appearing in a radio-press interview this morning in Cebu City, the Cebu co-adjutor archbishop said the church and the state should not assume adversary position but should instead work together for the good of the people.

The pulpit should not be used as a medium for airing unverified charges and should be used very sparingly for such purpose," he said. [as published]

"If there are priests who have been vocal and active against what they see as government abuses, they are doing so in their personal capacity," Salvador said.

"A priest should look after faith and morals and are not social or political workers," he said.

According to the Cebu church leader a dialog, more often than not, can go a long way in ironing out irritants and forging better understanding between the church and the state.

CSO: 4200/134

PHILIPPINES

HUMAN RIGHTS CRUSADE DRAWS SUPPORT FROM PDP

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 11 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Al Alinsug]

[Text] The Opposition PDP-LABAN in Central Visayas is throwing all-out support to the crusade for human rights initiated by a multi-sectoral assembly of the faithful named KATAKUS or Tawhanong Katungod sa Sugbo.

Speaking through Ribomapil Holganza, PDP-Laban Secretary General, the region-based opposition party made known its full support to the movement in defense of human rights which are God-given rights of the people.

Holganza, who contacted VISAYAN HERALD by phone last night said, "We welcome the organizing efforts of KATAKUS and it is to us a breath of fresh air considering that the prime movers of this movement come from the clergy."

The PDP-Laban assures the people, Holganza said, of its whole-hearted support. Holganza then pledged the little facilities of PDP-Laban to the cause of human rights.

The Cebuano opposition leader expressed agreement to the necessity of waging a "relentless and massive human rights crusade in this country," during this time when "the repressive forces of the government is already geared towards the indiscriminate arrests of priests and other religious personalities."
[as published]

Holganza said he feels that the situation is rather "critical and perilous."

If men of God, Holganza continued, are not safe anymore from the clutches of reactionary forces, then nobody is safe in this country now.

It may be recalled that a number of priests have been rounded up and held incommunicado. The latest of these arrests were that of Fr. Edgar Kangleon, director of the Social Action Center of the diocese of Calbayog, Samar and Fr. Brian Gore of Kabankalan, Negros Occ.

These arrests of priests have been viewed with alarm by concerned Filipinos. The latest to express concern were the Concerned Women of the Philippines

(CFP) [as published] headed by Zenaïdo Quezon Avancena (VH, Nov. 9, 1982) and WE FORUM publisher-editor Jose G. Burgos (See page 1 related story).

The KATAKUS has planned to hold an assembly this Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Legion of Mary Social Hall of the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral in Cebu City.

The group was reportedly organized last month as a coordinating body for a human rights campaign which would culminate on Dec. 10 with activities commemorating the 34th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

KATAKUS is reportedly coordinating with the Coalition Against People's Persecution (CAPP).

With this development, His Excellency, the Archbishop of Cebu, Msgr. Ricardo Vidal, has been understood as having taken bolder steps in contrast to the collaborative stance taken by his predecessor.

CSO: 4200/134

PROBITY OF OPPOSITION QUESTIONED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 9 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Atty David Ompoc]

[Text] Two assemblymen in Region VII have won applause and admiration for exuding brilliance on floor discussions of pending bills. From the looks of it, Assemblymen Davide and Fernandez have championed the cause of the opposition by consistently opposing KBL-sponsored bills of dubious value to our people. This column on several occasions have doffed its hat to the fine performance of the two gentlemen in the Batasan. [as published]

Yet, a knowledgeable informant has pooh-poohed the opposition stance of Messrs. Davide and Fernandez and has criticized this columnist for being naive and ignorant of the real personalities of the duo. Said informant has asked the following questions: "Where is the wife of Assemblyman Davide working? What is her position and in what manner did she get her promotion? Did she get it through sheer merit or through the influence of her husband? Mr. Davide as Con-Con delegate, is he not one among the recipients of the payola money?" With regards to Assemblyman Fernandez, this informant declared that he is allegedly guilty of receiving direct subsidy from the powers-that-be. These bits of information are very disturbing especially to this columnist who holds a very high regard and esteem for the two legislators.

There is no truth that when one is an oppositionist, he is outside looking in. Assemblyman Mariano Logarta, Minority Floor Leader, is the best example. It is being bruited about that he recently bought a residential property at San Jose St., Cebu City for an allegedly staggering sum of P450,000.00 on cash basis. And also Assemblyman Logarta in partnership of a national columnist is negotiating for the purchase of radio station DYRE. The sun is clearly shining brightly on the fortunes of Assemblyman Logarta.

Sardine business is very lucrative both for the importer and the influence peddler. The take for the influence peddler is on commission basis per carton. If one gets an authority to import 100,000 cartons of sardines at P10.00 commission per carton, the influence peddler is richer by 1 million. If it is true as alleged that Assemblyman Logarta obtained an authority to

import sardines under the name of his father, Antonio Logarta, then it follows that he is indeed very solvent to be able to acquire valuable real estate properties.

A source who is not seeing eye-to-eye with Assemblyman Legaspi has indicated that among the twelve assemblymen in Region VII, only Mr. Legaspi can be given credit as the true and loyal opposition. This information is highly credible considering that it came from an unfriendly source. Regarding Assemblyman Cabangbang, he being an oppositionist is on cash-and-carry basis. Just what is the meaning of this statement I really don't know. I hope my informant will give more clarificatory statements.

CSO: 4200/134

PHILIPPINES

CLERICS' ARRESTS ALARM WOMEN'S GROUP

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 9 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] The apparent systematic arrests of priests in different parts of the country has not only alarmed the religious and the clergy but also the women's group.

The Concerned Women of the Philippines (CWP) whose executive board is headed by Zenaida Quezon-Avancena has viewed the recent wave of arrests of priests and nuns "with great alarm." In a letter sent to WE FORUM, the CWP has deplored the suspicion of these nuns and priests and other church lay workers as subversives. [as published]

The letter took note of arrests of members of the clergy from Cagayan in the second look at their present policy against the Christian workers of the country, including our foreign missionaries.

(The executive board of the CWP is composed of Zenaida Quezon-Avancena, Mary C. Bautista, Thelma M. Arceo, Risalina B. Boncan, Maria Y. Feria, Lourdes C. Jose, Eulalia H. Lim, Paz P. Mendez, Ma. Teresa F. Nieva, Cecilia M. Palma and Mita Pardo de Tavera.)

CSO: 4200/134

CHURCH LAUNCHES MASSIVE HUMAN RIGHTS CRUSADE

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 9 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Mike Yncino]

[Text] The Kalihokan Alang sa Tawhanong Katungod sa Sugbo (KATAKUS), (Movement for Human Rights in Cebu) is holding a multisectoral assembly of the faithful at 2 P.M. on Saturday, November 13 at the Legion of Mary Social Hall of the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral in Cebu City.

The group was reportedly organized last month as a coordinating body for a human rights campaign which would culminate on December 10 with activities commemorating the 34th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

KATAKUS has slated the multisectoral assembly organized under the Coalition Against People's Persecution (CAPP) to serve the needs for the preparations of the massive human rights campaign in the next days until December.

Sources inside the political opposition are reportedly welcoming the gesture by the church showing their concern for human rights in the country. Monsignor Ricardo Vidal, Cebu Archbishop, has reportedly taken bolder steps in contrast to the collaborative stance taken by the former Cebu Roman Catholic brass towards the government.

CAPP issued its working paper for the conference scheduled this week. Pertinent portions of the paper were quoted as follows: "it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression that human rights should be protected by law."

CSO: 4200/134

CITIZENS' CRITICISMS OF MARCOS REPORTED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 6/7 Nov 82 pp 4, 2

[Article by Atty David Ompoc]

[Text] A concerned reader, Mr. Paquito Inson of V. Rama Ave., Cebu City has something valid to say of President Marcos as follows: "Definitely, Marcos is not the man who can make this country great. We need a leader who is humble, sincere and honest. We do not need a liar, power-hungry, greedy and a henpeck husband to lead the country. When we discover this man and we could install him as our leader, that would be the time that our country will be great again." Mr. Inson has a very tall order. I wonder who among our present crop of leaders can qualify. It is difficult and will take some time before we can pick the right leader so in the meantime we have to make the most of it and enjoy the company of the wrong one. Our objective now is to stay alive and make life bearable while the weather is bad and all dreams of becoming great have to be set aside temporarily.

The Allied Powers during World War II have drummed up a terrific hate campaign against Adolf Hitler of Germany. The enemies of the Fuehrer turned his public and private life upside down in search of evidence to destroy him. Nonetheless there was no iota of proof that Hitler was a corrupt leader. When the so-called mad dictator dictated his last will and testament he worded it as follows: "Whatever I have, either real or personal property which I do not know or cannot recall, I hereby bequeath them to the Nazi party but if the at the time of my demise the Nazi party no longer exists, then I hereby bequeath them to the German people." Is there any KBL leader who can approximate the thoughts and philosophy of the malignant dictator?

Another angry citizen, Mr. Raul Maroda, has commented on the system of democracy we are practicing in this tenor: "To begin with, it is really disappointing, frustrating and even revolting to note that despite our claim as having attained already some degree of success in our efforts at social development, there's still the prevailing notion that ours is a truly and genuinely democratic institution. And ostensibly to reinforce this conviction, we so highly cherished it, labored hard to protect and maintain it and even fought and died for it, claiming that this is the real thing because we have equal rights even though we have unequal opportunities. Is it therefore a truly and genuinely democratic society where only rights are equal but opportunities are unequal?"

Gentlemen, as I see it through the prisms of my mind, ours is an unjust society; it being devoid of a counter-balancing right to equal opportunity. But sad to say that this unjust society has been effectively peddled by the unscrupulous few and beneficiaries of this system. And the irony of it all is that the media whose avowed mission is to inform and to educate, among others, had connived and still continue to connive to perpetuate this deceit. This society is out of balance and this condition created tension. The absence of a right to equal opportunity or the lack of it, constitutes the one most serious flaw in the structure of our society. This defect renders our claim to democracy meaningless, a hollow rhetoric and a national self-deception of the highest order.

The evil effect is not difficult to see. Through this flaw springs the multi-faceted ills that ranged from breakdown of morality, injustices and to graft and corruption. In the course of the struggle for existence, (not even necessarily to live but just simply to exist) there is always that sort of a tug-of-war that comes into play. The small, the weak and the virtually unknown many are now inevitably pitted against the strong, the mighty and the influential in the game. And as expected in the natural course of things, the latter always gets the upperhand. At this juncture, I would like to ask: What will happen to the former? Will they not be driven to discontent thereby creating a social problem and will gradually and ultimately become a dangerous social volcano? Is this really the brand of democracy worthwhile fighting and dying for? And fighting and dying for whom? For the maintenance of the status quo so that those handful few may continue to place their thumb over the fate of the great impoverished masses of our people? On the other hand, when do you think will we come to realize the fallacy of our beliefs?"

The foregoing dissertation of Mr. Maroda is indeed thought-provoking.

CSO: 4200/134

POSSIBILITY OF OPPOSITION ELECTION BOYCOTT VIEWED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 6/7 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Danny M. Gonzales]

[Text] The series of election shenanigans experienced by the country's opposition leaders brought about the many demands for electoral reforms. The PDP-LABAN has its demands. The Unido has its own. The SDP, through Canoy, made its own demand. And so did the Mindanao Alliance through Adaza. Well, the demands varied. But they were substantially the same. And all intended to give the Filipino nation a clean, honest, and orderly election.

Marcos' Reaction

The demands were valid. Even some KBL leaders would secretly admit. However, the party's top man--President Marcos himself--would not entertain the demands (calling them "fantasia"--an obvious hint to his mostly subservient supporters and followers that the demands must be discouraged and not given due course. [as published] This was a sad development. For no less than the top man of the country, who could have wielded a great influence in bringing about the long-needed electoral reforms, doused cold water on moves to correct a procedural mistake in a political process that serves as foundation on which rests the so-called people power.

Opposition's Reaction

In light of this development, how do our opposition leaders react? The reaction is similar to that displayed by them in the last presidential elections. They would have nothing to do with another zarzuela. Thus, here in Cebu, during the public hearings conducted on the synchronization of elections and other matters, the PDP-LABAN in Central Visayas did not appear. And how surprised he was to learn later that so many other people among the oppositionists were of the same opinion.

Catching Fire

The boycott idea may not be the best the opposition can offer. But it is catching fire. And this, again, is a sad development. At any rate, in a

talk I had with SDP Chairman Andy Corominas the other day, I gathered that his preference is to shy away from a political activity that is one-sided. Andy even mentioned one illustrious opposition assemblyman as planning not to run for re-election should there be no substantial changes in the election rules.

Not Yet Late

But it's not yet late. The administration people may yet awaken from their present thinking to win at all cost, and realize the value of fair play. An undeserved victory is always hollow, and it gives the victor an empty feeling. Unfortunately, some people have learned to fill this vacuum with their own unmitigated shamelessness. The people's hope lies alone in a possible surprising turn-about of attitude of those in power who manage to shed off part of that shamelessness.

CSO: 4200/134

PHILIPPINES

FOLLOWER OF REBEL PRIEST SURRENDERS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 6/7 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] Camp Dangwa, Benguet, Nov. 5--(PNA)--One of the closest followers of the late Fr. Zacarias Agatep, a rebel priest, surrendered last week to military authorities in Salcedo, Ilocos Sur, according to reports reaching here today.

The surrenderer was identified as Tito Tuwang, 25, alias "Ka Gil" of barangay Baybayadeng, Salcedo, Ilocos Sur, who was identified by military authorities as one of the original recruits of Fr. Agatep.

Tuwang, who deserted the New Peoples Army (NPA) about a week after his enlistment, was surrendered by his brother-in-law, Ernesto Bacdayan, to Ilocos Sur military authorities.

He joined the NPA sometime in May, 1981, then left it a week later after realizing the difficulty of being a fugitive of the law, aside from scarcity of provisions, like food and medicine.

He said he had to go to Laguna and was accepted for sometime as a sugar cane plantation worker. His brother-in-law fetched him from there and surrendered him to military authorities in Ilocos Sur.

Tuwang is now temporarily detained at a PC detachment stockade in Salcedo town while awaiting his transfer to Camp Dangwa here where he will formalize his surrender to Brig. General Victorino T. Azada, PC-INP regional commander.

Military authorities said the surrender of Tuwang could be the start of the mass surrender of all the followers of the late Fr. Agatep who was killed in an encounter with the military three weeks ago.

CSO: 4200/134

COLUMNIST REPORTS EFFORTS TO DISCREDIT CHURCH

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 4 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Danny M. Gonzales]

[Text] Recently, I received voluminous copies of the things allegedly happening in Leyte and Samar. They came from VISSA--Visayas Secretariat of Social Action. I'm thanking VISSA for furnishing me the copies, and I would like to share some of them now with the readers.

Twisted Publicity

One letter came from the Concerned Priests and Religious of Samar and Leyte. It was addressed to Minister Juan Ponce Enrile of the Ministry of National Defense. A portion of the letter reads: "We, the Concerned Priests and Religious of Samar and Leyte strongly protest and denounce the unjust and twisted publicity of an alleged interview of Bishop Hobayan of Catarman by Peter Hastings based on a news item in the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD wherein Hastings said that the Bishop of Catarman thought he had lost eight of his 27 priests."

Points Raised

The same story was later picked up by BULLETIN TODAY'S Jose de Vera. The priests claimed that this time the portion of Hasting's article to the effect that Bishop Hobayan thought he lost eight without any qualification was reported by De Vera as follows: "Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile ordered military authorities yesterday to investigate the activities of religious elements said to be actively working with dissidents in Samar. "The CPRSL declared: "We denounce this to be unfair and unjust!" In the same letter to Enrile, they pointed out that the latter could have checked with Bishop Hobayan as to the truthfulness of the data given by Hastings in his report--considering that when this matter was brought to the attention of Enrile's office, Bishop Labayen had not yet left the country.

A Scheme

"These facts appear to us as a clear proof of your office's malice and scheme to discredit the eight priests of Samar and possibly prepare the

minds of the people for more harassments and physical repression of the priests and religious of Samar and Leyte and all over the nation," the priests said. "Together with Cardinal Sin and Cardinal Rosales, we detest this Samar smear campaign your office and the military are doing to destroy the good name of the priests of Samar," they added.

Seeks Justice

The same group concluded its letter: "In the name of God, we protest this black propaganda being waged by the government and the military against the priests and religious of the Church of Samar and Leyte and of the whole Philippine Church in general. We solemnly demand that justice be done. We specifically demand that the retraction be made by your office. We demand finally that persecution of the Church be stopped."

CSO: 4200/134

WITNESS IDENTIFIES NPA LEADER

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 4 Nov 82 pp 1, 14

[Article by Arthur J. Tariman]

[Text] The Cebu mountain barangays rebel-turned-state-witness, Apolonio Quimbo, Jr. yesterday implicated a certain Jesus Trocio alias Commander Blackie as one of the top-ranking leaders of the slain-rebel leader Regino Laurente.

He said Trocio or Commander Blackie had been operating in the mountains of Asturias with his base command in barangay Lemon, Asturias.

Quimbo was cross-examined by defense counsel Alfonso Surigao yesterday afternoon during the resumption of the marathon hearing of the rebellion charges against some 42 suspected rebels who were rounded up in the hinterland barangays of Asturias, Balamban and Tuburan towns a few-months ago.

Asked by lawyer Surigao why he had just mentioned the name of Trocio after a series of hearings had been conducted, Quimbo alleged that it had just flashed back into his mind during yesterday's hearing at the sala of Court of First Instance Vice Executive Judge Alfredo Marigomen.

He said he was not instructed by the government prosecutors to implicate Trocio in the rebellion case.

Sometime last month, unconfirmed reports reaching the VISAYAN HERALD said that Commander Blackie had yield to the military authorities already. [as published] Quimbo, on his part, said he did not know if Trocio is in the hands of the authorities.

However, military authorities here in Cebu denied having Trocio on their custody saying that they are still negotiating for his surrender. [as published]

Cebu PC Provincial Command reported that it received feelers from the remnants of the suspected rebel-bandit group of Laurente expressing intention to surrender peacefully. In this group is Trocio who has been one of their respected leaders.

The rebellion hearing will resume this afternoon with defense lawyer George Baladjay to cross-examine Quimbo.

CSO: 4200/134

PHILIPPINES

CHURCH OFFICIAL DENIES FUTURE ARRESTS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 4 Nov 82 pp 1, 14

[Text] The new head of the Catholic Church here in Cebu, Archbishop Ricardo Vidal, denied yesterday published reports quoting him as saying that more priests and nuns will be arrested by the military.

The reports were published in a regional daily newspaper last October 27.

The reports had quoted Archbishop Vidal saying that the recent meeting in Tacloban City had resulted with the military threatening that more priest and nuns will be detained by the government. [as published]

According to that report by Agence France Press, several priests and nuns are on the list of the so-called presidential commitment order.

These priests and nuns are reportedly working for the protection of individual human rights and for the establishment of basic Christian communities in their respective areas.

Vidal in an interview with government television yesterday said that the five-hour meeting in Tacloban City concluded with the military saying that no more priests and nuns will be arrested.

He said he was really shocked when he read the news story attributed to him which was datelined in Tacloban City. The reports did not identify the writer except that it was known only that it had been filed by the Agence France Press, a foreign and independent news agency with bureaus here in the country.

The Cebu Catholic church leader claimed that he was neither interviewed nor did he utter such statement publicly or privately.

He disclosed an agreement with the military that no public statement be issued during the process of dialogue.

This they did he explained, in order not to hamper this on-going dialogue between the church leaders and military authorities. (AJT)

CSO: 4200/134

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

IFAD IRRIGATION PROJECT LOAN--Rome--The International Fund for Agricultural Development on Tuesday extended a \$12-million loan to the Philippines to help finance an irrigation project, the IFAD announced. It said the project is designed to increase paddy production by at least 106,000 tons over the next eight years and that it is expected to directly help 24,000 smallholder farm families to increase their earnings. An agreement covering the loan was signed by IFAD president Abdelmuhsin M. Alasudeary and Alicia C. Ramos, the Philippines charge de'affaires. The loan is repayable over a period of 20 years, including a grace period of five years with an interest rate of four percent per year, the IFAD said. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Nov 82 p 9]

CONSTABULARY UNITS REORGANIZED--Three major units of the PC were revamped yesterday after the retirement of two ranking officers. Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Felix, former chief of the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit, was named PC Recon 3 Commander based in Camp Olivas, Pampanga. He replaced Brig. Gen. Vicente Eduardo who retired yesterday. Eduardo's term had been extended nine times. Col. Virgilio M. David, CANU deputy chief, was appointed officer-in-charge of CANU. Col. Cesar Manligue was named acting PC adjutant general, vice Col. Subas Edades, who also retired yesterday. Camp Crame said changes affecting other major commands are also expected in the next few days. Recon 11 command based on Mindanao has been revamped with the transfer of Brig. Gen. Pedrito de Guzman to the Bicol region as Recon 5 commander. De Guzman, whose term has been extended five times, replaced Brig. Gen. Rene Cruz, who was returned to his previous post as deputy PC chief for police matters. Col. Dionisio Tan-Gatue Jr., deputy commander, took over from De Guzman. Camp Crame also announced the designation of Col. Noli Santua as officer in charge of the Western Visayas regional command vice Brig. Gen. Alfonso Trance who also retired. The military has sent additional troops to the Bicol region to counteract the reported massing of dissidents in the area. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 82 p 1]

MALAYSIA BERATED ON SABAH--Malaysia has suggested that the Philippines must amend its Constitution to give up the Sabah claim permanently. The suggestion comes from lack of faith in official statements of the Philippine government that the Sabah claim will not be pursued. No less than President Marcos says so. We have not done anything to indicate that such a

decision will change. In the interest of better ASEAN unity and cooperation, the Malaysian government is best advised to let sleeping dogs lie. What must be explained to the Malaysian leaders is that the Sabah claim was never seriously pursued except by the Macapagal administration--that was almost 20 years ago. Since then, nothing has been done by the Philippine government to pursue the claim. A Constitutional amendment would involve so complicated a legal process and could cost the Philippine government an enormous amount of money that the government can ill-afford at this time. Even at the height of the Sybah claim, it was not a popular move on the part of the Philippines. Insofar as the Filipinos are concerned, the Sabah claim has failed to register. The Malaysian leadership should be satisfied about the present dormant state of that infamous claim. [By Teodoro F. Valencia] [Excerpt] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 82 p 4]

COCONUT EXPORTS DROP--Philippine export of coconut products for this year's first 10 months totalled 1,546,820 tons (copra terms) worth \$528,478,017 (FOB), a drop of 0.8 percent in volume and 17.9 percent in value against exports for the same period last year, according to the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA). The annual (October to October) comparison showed volume exports of 150,301 tons or a rise of six percent and a value of \$45,972,023 or a drop of 16.9 percent. The value figures reflect the softening of the world market for coconut products which have prevailed in consonance with the world's economic recession, the coconut authority said. The coconut products included in the reckoning were copra, coconut oil, copra meal/cake, dessicated coconut, shell charcoal and activated carbon. Price drops based on average prices for the 10-month period ranged from 7.5 percent for copra meal/cake to 34.9 percent for dessicated coconut. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 82 p 9]

CSO: 4200/135

EDITORIAL ATTACKS SUBVERSIVE CLERGY

Colombo SUN in English 18 Nov 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Dirty Habits"]

[Text]

The recent disclosures — somewhat shocking — in the north have brought into focus a menacing new perspective on separatist politics.

The fact that some members of the usually staid clergy have allegedly had clandestine dealings with hardcore militants understandably generated anxiety within the congregation and alarm among security forces.

It simply means that the law enforcers will not be able to trust anyone any more because a clergyman is never expected to resort to subversive politics.

Right now the security forces in the north are continuing their investigations

into the 'link' that some clergymen have established with separatist agitators. Some of the disclosures are most disturbing.

The Catholic hierarchy yesterday condemned acts of terrorism and violence. That is most commendable for the situation did not warrant any vacillation.

The religious robes these suspects wear make their alleged offences greater for they not only betray their vows but also desecrate the sacred habit which has been the garb of celebrated saints and martyrs of the Church.

Like Lucifer the fallen angel — some of the politically oriented clergymen seem to think that it is bet-

ter to reign in hell than serve in heaven.

Besides such ethical and moral factors, the recent disclosures in the north have indisputable political significance.

The allegation that some of these padres had dealings in 'hot money' robbed from banks by the 'Tigers' that killed innocent policemen is most serious.

What they have allegedly committed is a betrayal of their vowed mission. Christ said,

"Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgement, mercy and faith (Matthew 23—23).

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH PNG--Sri Lanka has established diplomatic relations with Papua New Guinea, effective from today. Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to Australia has concurrently been accredited to Papua New Guinea, while Papua New Guinea will make a similar appointment in Sri Lanka. [Text] [Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 17 Nov 82 p 9]

MORE PRIESTS ARRESTED--Army investigators yesterday arrested two more Catholic clergymen bringing the total number of clergymen arrested this week in connection with alleged terrorist activities to five. Informed sources said yesterday that the two clergymen were alleged to have had subversive literature in their possession at the time of their arrest. The two priests have been identified as Rev. Fathers Susenayagam and Canagaratnam. Security forces were due to confer with the Bishop of Jaffna Rt. Rev. Deogupillai. Meanwhile, four persons have been arrested in connection with the killing of the UNP organiser D. Thambapillai on Monday. On Sunday, three Catholic clergymen who were taken in for questioning, Rev. Fathers Sinharasa, Singarayer and Jeevapaul are still in custody. Two other priests Rev. Fathers Paul Natchatram and Regis Rajanayagam who were taken in for questioning have been released. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 17 Nov 82 p 1]

TAMIL CONGRESS MAY LEAVE FRONT--The All Ceylon Tamil Congress is likely to back out of the Common Front led by Sirimavo Bandaranaike to campaign against the referendum. This is due to the failure to reach agreement over three issues raised by the A.C.T.C. The Tamil Congress wants the Common Front to resolve that if the UNP won the referendum SLFP MPs and the CP, MP in Parliament should resign their seats and not make any fresh nominations until a general election is held. It is learnt that the Communist Party is opposed to this proposal. The second issue is that the Common Front parties should issue a statement that it would not join a national government after the referendum. The congress has also sought a declaration from the Common Front regarding its stand towards the TULF. Is it that the TULF was not invited as it is pro-government in its attitude, the congress wants to know. Congress sources ruled out the possibility of any campaign against the referendum in collaboration with the TULF. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 17 Nov 82 p 1]

OPPOSITION WANTS EMERGENCY LIFTED--Opposition leaders from ten parties who met at the SLFP Headquarters yesterday decided to appeal to the President not to extend the Emergency as holding a Referendum under it was contrary to the spirit of Parliamentary Democracy. They also decided to ask the President to release Mr. Ratnasiri Wickremanayake, General Secretary of the SLFP and other political figures who are in custody and to lift the ban on the publication of ATHTHA, the Communist Party daily, and to allow the Presses sealed by the Government to carry on their normal businesses. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike. Representatives of the political parties said that while the Opposition had asked for a general election to be held, the Government was not only having a Referendum but also holding it under an Emergency. They said that the General Secretary of the main Opposition party, which could spearhead the Opposition campaign and many organisers and supporters of the party were being detained by the authorities. This was a serious impediment to their campaign at the Referendum. Those who participated in the discussions yesterday were the SLFP, CP (Moscow Wing), MEP, LSSP, Sri Lanka Samasamaja Party, the NLSSP, Prajathanthrawadi Jathika Peramuna, Lanka Jathika Peramuna and the DWC (Political Wing). [By Daya Lankapura] [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

PRIESTS HELD HOLD-UP MONEY--Interrogation of several clergymen arrested in the North had revealed that the entire Rs. 8.1 million seized in the Neerveli Bank robbery had been given for safe-keeping to two priests, informed sources said yesterday. It is suspected the money had been given by a terrorist group leader Prabhakaran who has now fled to India and was recently arrested and released by the Indian authorities. Sources claim that the arrested clergymen had claimed that the entire sum of money had been released by the clergymen to some terrorists. They had claimed the money for legal expenses following the arrest of Prabhakaran in Madras. Of the five priests who had been taken in for questioning three had been released while two are still in custody and are being questioned on terrorist activities sources said. [By Norman Pallihawadana] [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

PRIESTS' OVERSEAS RADIO LINK--Police and Army investigators are at present probing the connections of Fr. Singarayer with a Manila-based Radio Station devoted to religious broadcasts which gives much prominence to Sri Lankan news over its broadcasts. This private Radio Station has often been supplied with material by Fr. Singarayer according to intelligence sources. The Long-playing disc and other literature allegedly in the possession of Fr. Singarayer when arrested last Saturday were to be despatched to Manila said these sources. An employee at the Jaffna Post Office Umakanthan who is also involved in publishing a magazine related to the broadcasts was also questioned by the intelligence sleuths and later released. Intelligence personnel are also investigating into the connections between Fr. Singarayer and a Sri Lankan student in India who was taken into custody at Katunayake last week for bringing in literature pertaining to the terrorist movements in Sri Lanka. The Catholic Parist Priest of Naranthanai Fr. Reginald Rajanayagam and the Anglican Priest of Vavuniya, Rev. D. J. Kanagaratnam were released yesterday after their statements were recorded.

Two other Catholic Priests Fr. Soosainayagam of Chetikulam and Fr. Sinnarasa of Delft who are at present in custody are expected to be released shortly. Mr. K. Eelavendan, the Organising Secretary of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front was also released after his statement had been recorded. Security sources told THE ISLAND that certain members of the clergy had been questioned because of receipts to the value of Rs. 1.1 million found in the room of Fr. Singarayer along with Rs. 69,000 in cash at the time of his arrest. [By D. B. S. Jeyaraj] [Excerpt] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

SECURITY PLANS FOR NORTH--Police Chief Rudra Rajasingham is to meet Deputy Defence Minister Mr. T. B. Werapitiya shortly to discuss special security plans for the north on Referendum Day. It is understood the Army will take over the security of polling stations in the north in addition to maintaining round-the-clock vigil of the peninsula from the time the ballot boxes are transported to the polling stations and taken back to the Kachcheri. Meanwhile, 7,750 regulars in the Police will be deployed to guard the 6,985 polling stations to be set up throughout the country while special men will also be posted at vulnerable areas to combat violence. According to a preliminary plan now before the Police each polling division will have an SP or ASP supervising ten mobile patrol units in each electorate. 250 riot squads and mini squads trained in baton drill, use of tear gas, etc will be on duty to deal with mob violence on Referendum Day and a few days after. This time the police have also introduced "route" mobile patrols to conduct relays of ballot, boxes being taken to the counting centre by the Returning Officers. A police spokesman also added that the leave of all police personnel will be cancelled on Referendum Day and a few days following, with a view to giving the public maximum security. Police chief is also expected to brief senior DIGS and SPs shortly on the final police arrangements. [By Peter Balasuriya] [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

DECLINE IN TEA PRODUCTION--Sri Lanka's tea production last month, the election period, declined by a staggering 1.9 million kilos as against the same month last year. This disturbing trend has caused anxiety in the tea trade which has described it as a "dismal picture." Sri Lanka's total production in October 1981 was 17,327,083 kilos. Last month the figure stood at 15,421,464 kilos. No specific reason has been attributed officially by brokering firms in their weekly market reports for this sharp drop. However tea trade sources believe last month's election campaign was a contributory factor. This is particularly in view of election activity slowing down crop harvests. According to one tea brokering firm, barring the month of July, crop figures have so far been lower than the corresponding periods last year. To date the deficit has risen to 21.8 million kilos, says the firm which points out that this is "all due to people not working." The total tea production from January to October this year stood at 152,163,726 kilos as against a total of 173,916,250 kilos for the same period last year. [By Minoli de Soysa] [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

CPT FRONT LEADERS DEFECT; FRONT DISSOLVED

BK220253 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 22 Nov 82 p 5

[Article by NATION political desk]

[Excerpts] His disillusioned and cynical colleagues were leaving the jungle and the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] one by one. But Weng Tochirakan, a well-known student activist during the heyday of student movement in the 1973-76 period, started on. He was hoping that the CPT would change.

With his wife, Mrs Thida Thawonset, a former assistant professor, also from Mahidon University, who stayed on in the jungle to replace Thirayut Bunmi as secretary general of the "Committee for Coordinating Patriotic and Democratic Forces of Thailand" (CCPDF), a front organization of the CPT, Weng waited patiently for the CPT's Fourth Congress to correct what he thought was wrong with the outlawed party.

The changes, which had also been pressed for by earlier defectors, never came.

It was then time to pack up and head for the city to join his friends who had turned their backs on the CPT, once the hope of the youngsters but now a grouping considered obsolete in ideology and stubborn, unrealistic in their approach, apart from their "blind loyalty towards the Maoist line."

Weng and Thida, who fell in love with each other in the jungle, had been staying quietly in a house in the outskirts of Bangkok for several weeks before he [as published] reported themselves to the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) last week. One source said the contact for amnesty was made through Lt Gen Chaowalit Yongchaiyut, assistant army chief-of-staff for operations.

With the defections of Weng and Thida came the confirmation that the CCPDF, which was originally (soon after the 6 October 1976 Thammasat bloodbath) the front organization to accommodate student, labour and political leaders who fled the cities for the jungle to join hands with the CPT, had now been officially dissolved.

Thida was said to have issued a circular earlier this month to all members of the CCPDF before she decided to defect to the government with Weng to the effect that the front organization had officially been declared out of existence because most leading members had already left. Some of the leading members of the CCPDF once included Thirayut Burmi, Udom Sisuwan, Khaisaeng Suksai, Si Intapanti, etc...

Weng's surrender last week came only about 1 week after former Yasothon MP Prayong Munsan of the now-defunct Socialist Party of Thailand gave himself up to government authorities for more or less the same reasons--conflict with the CPT.

The long-delayed CPT's Fourth Congress, when it was finally held earlier this year, served to split the party further more. A faction in the north-east was reportedly upset over the outcome of the meeting and was toying with the idea of splitting from the mainstream to adopt a "neutral stand" regarding the Soviet Union and China.

Following the congress, government intelligence officers claimed that CPT provincial leaders in Udon Thani, led by Provincial Secretary General "Comrade Thung" and Provincial Committee members "Comrade Yut" alias Suwit Niamsa, threatened to defect en masse to seek assistance from Laos and Vietnam if the CPT mainstream refused to change its basic policies. Suwit later was reported to have offered to surrender to the government but sources said that his conditions for the surrender were rejected by the authorities.

Thai Government officials monitoring the CPT's activities, which have also suffered serious setbacks after a series of successful government attacks on their major jungle bases, have claimed that the new party secretary general known by the name of "Pracha Thanyaphaibun" has turned out to be a codename of a collective leadership comprising three leaders: Thong Chamsi, Wirat Angkhathawon and another Politburo member whose real identity has yet to be disclosed, although it is claimed that the third leader's jungle name is "Comrade Kap."

Weng's defection last week won't be the last. In fact, government authorities have claimed that in the very near future, as many as 300 insurgents, many of them senior members of the CPT, will surrender in what is seen as another major setback for the already severely-battered CPT.

CSO: 4200/168

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES INDIA ON KAMPUCHEA ISSUE

BK181345 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 17 Nov 82 p 5

[Article by Somkiat Onwimon: "Has the Iron Curtain Blinded India on Southeast Asia?"]

[Excerpts] India and Southeast Asia do not appear to get along. India's policy seems to specially favor Laos and Vietnam and ignore the ASEAN countries. Since the beginning of last month India and Thailand have hardly been able to look each other in the eye.

India recognized the Heng Samrin government on 7 July 1980 and for the third year in succession it has opposed the seat of Democratic Kampuchea in the United Nations in favor of the Heng Samrin government. Actually, India's opposition to Democratic Kampuchea's unseat this year was to be expected because it did the same for the past 2 years. What is very strange is that this year it initiated a debate in the United Nations in blatant defense of the Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea. To the ASEAN countries, India's action was unacceptable and shameful.

It would have been better if India kept quiet, limiting its action in the United Nations to opposing Democratic Kampuchea's seat and abstaining from the vote on the resolution calling for Vietnam's withdrawal from Kampuchea. It should not have come to the defense of Vietnam unrequested.

India's overaction has not pleased the ASEAN governments. The Thai Government even gave the Indian ambassador a representation. The issue appears to have been exacerbated and creates misunderstanding between India and the ASEAN countries. The situation for Thailand could worsen and create discord between the Thai people and persons of India stock in Thailand.

Some mass media circles have charged that India does not seem to pay attention to the interests of Indians in Thailand and other countries in the region. The number of Indians in Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam is far less than the number of Indians in ASEAN countries.

Economically, this is a long story with too much data to cover here but, in short, India's trade with the ASEAN countries far exceeds its trade with the Indochinese countries.

The important thing is that the Indochinese countries do not have much buying power. If India wishes to establish new trade influence over the Indochinese countries, it could do so only if peace is restored in Southeast Asia, however, India's policy does not seem too conducive to restoring that condition.

Therefore, if India persists in the policy of opposing the ASEAN countries, its economic interests could only increasingly suffer--its trade with the Indochinese countries will not advance and its fine trade position with ASEAN could deteriorate. It should be noted that Indian investment in Malaysia and Singapore is greater than anywhere else. India's trade with Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia totals 4.6 billion rupees, or 4 percent of its overall foreign trade.

What has been shown is the importance of ASEAN and Southeast Asia to India. If the Indian leaders' eyes are not blurred by the iron curtain, they should look closely at India's role in this region. And, if their eyes are completely shielded by the iron curtain, parts of that curtain have already been destroyed enough for them to peak through.

CSO: 4207/33

ATHIT SCORES BBC COMMENTARY NEWSMEN

BK141226 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 14 Nov 82 pp 1, 16

[Text] Asked about the BBC commentary on Thailand's situation and the present role of Army Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, the army commander himself told newsmen during an interview yesterday (13 November) that he had seen it but was too lazy to pay any attention to such a filthy report because it is as dirty as the one regarding the bomb explosion at the Defense Ministry, in which BBC simply jumped to the conclusion that there was a division within the Thai military. This is the work of the ill wishers.

General Athit then turned to the setting up of the 123 emergency number center. He said: Everybody knows its objective. Even kids know that this is the result of cooperation between the police and military to counter crimes for the benefit of the people. It is not meant to serve as a base of support for anyone. "It is not that big. The police and military are working and coordinating with each other closely. They are doing a good job. The writer wrote a distorted report. He must be crazy and naive," General Athit said.

Regarding the commentary, which charges that he "is waiting for the time," to do something, the army commander said: "What am I waiting for? Why? What else should a person at my level want? Why should we stage a coup to topple the government we are supporting? If the government wants to reshuffle its cabinet, that is not our business. The author pretended that he knew everything. His article exposed his own ill intentions. To write a good article, you must gather information from all parties, not only from those who have lost interest, for they will certainly say something against me. Why don't they talk to the neutral parties. As a matter of fact, we have never had any trouble with the BBC. Why does it wish to treat us like this?"

General Athit also said that while BBC belongs to a big power nation, ironically it hires stupid newsmen. It cannot even match our radio station. Their ambassador here knows what is going on in the country. It is a pity that they never consider the consequences of their news presentation on the country. Everyone who is now working hard to serve the people is being accused. "Yes, we are waiting for the time to trample the author," General Athit said with a laugh.

The army commander said that the Thai who work for and send the news to the BBC do not know the facts and behave like slaves of the foreigner against their own nation. They should not have been born as Thai nor should they be allowed to live in Thailand. To be a slave of Thai masters is better than of foreign masters.

Asked if Prime Minister Prem has assigned him any special work to do during his coming visit to China, General Athit said: "The prime minister will be away for a short time. Everyone is doing his duty. There is no need to tell us what to do. We are not kids."

CSO: 4207/33

COMMENTARY NOTES UNGA DEBATE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA

BK201131 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Station commentary: "Peace, Stability and Cooperation in Southeast Asia"]

[Text] Last week the United Nations General Assembly held a debate on an item entitled question of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia, which had been tabled by Vietnam. Vietnam has introduced this item in the agenda of the General Assembly for the fourth consecutive year and attempted to mislead the world community about the present situation in the region. It is to be noted that the Vietnamese permanent representative, who was the first to speak during the debate, while repeatedly citing the threat of Chinese expansionism and imperialist forces as the main destabilizing factor in the region, tried to evade making references to the Kampuchean problem, which to the ASEAN countries and the vast majority of international community constituted the actual cause of tension and instability in Southeast Asia.

The Vietnamese permanent representative also spoke at length of the merits of seven principles proposed by Laos aimed at regulating relations between the ASEAN countries on the one hand and the so-called group of Indochinese countries comprising Vietnam, Laos and the Heng Samrin regime on the other. Such a proposal is merely a ruse to obscure the real issue--which is Vietnamese aggression of Kampuchea--and turn it into a bilateral question between ASEAN and the three Indochinese countries. The fact, however, is that there is no bilateral problem between ASEAN and other countries in the region. All the troubles in the region, including the disturbances along the Thai-Kampuchean border and the refugee problem, have all been created by Vietnam itself as the result of its invasion and continued occupation of Kampuchea and its policy of military adventurism.

It should also be asked whom does the Heng Samrin regime represent. The Heng Samrin regime cannot justifiably claim to represent the Kampuchean people as it was installed in Phnom Penh by Vietnam and owes its very existence to the presence of over 180,000 Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. The root cause of tension and instability in Southeast Asia is the aggression and continued occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnam. The situation in Kampuchea has dealt a severe blow to the basis of mutual trust and confidence, that is necessary for improving relations between countries in Southeast Asia as well as heightened major power rivalry in the region.

This is quite clear to the vast majority of the international community which recently voted to adopt UN Resolution 37/6 reiterating its call for withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and respect for right of the Kampuchean people to self determination free from outside interference. Peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia are, therefore, conditional upon the peaceful solution to the Kampuchean problem. A just and durable solution to the Kampuchean problem exists within the framework of the relevant UN resolutions and the declaration of the international conference on Kampuchea. If Vietnam truly desires peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia as it so loudly proclaims, it should earnestly join in the process of political solution to achieve this aim. The door remains open to Vietnam.

CSO: 4200/168

IMPOUNDED SOVIET OIL FOR LAOS RELEASED

BK111045 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 11 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] The National Security Council (NSC) has lifted the seizure of over 1,000 drums of Russian-supplied diesel oil destined for Laos at Khlong Toei Port after receiving a formal apology from the Russian Embassy here, an informed source said yesterday.

A note of apology was recently submitted by Laotian Ambassador to Thailand Khampan Simmalavong on behalf of the Russian Embassy to Secretary General of NSC Prasong Sunsiri, according to the source. The source said the Russian Embassy here apologized for violating the regulation and promised not to repeat it in the future.

The Thai Government held 1,034 drums of the petrol, which are now being stored at a warehouse at Khlong Toei Port, because it was being shipped through the country without its knowledge. The government later demanded an official apology from the Russian Embassy as a condition for releasing the impounded oil which arrived here last December.

The source said that Thailand permits Laos to import 70 million litres of oil through Thailand annually but only 35-45 million litres normally passed through Thailand.

NSC has already notified the Commerce Ministry and the Customs Department to allow the impounded oil to be delivered to Laos.

The source, however, said that it was believed that the bulk of the petrol imported by Laos was used for military activities, as well as for the 50,000 Vietnamese soldiers in that country.

CSO: 4200/168

ARMY SAYS CPT HEADQUARTERS MOVE SOUTH UNLIKELY

BK260257 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Nov 82 p 6

[Text] Surat Thani--A senior army official has expressed doubts over a recent press report that the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) is moving its headquarters from the north to this southern province.

Spokesman of the Fourth Army Region Col Thammarak Isarangkun told THE NATION that the CPT has no firm military bases left here following a major offensive launched by the army in March this year. He said the communist guerrillas now have to head for the plains because of the destruction of their jungle strongholds.

"If they were to move their headquarters here a few years ago that would have been possible because of their strong influence there," he said.

Informed sources said early this month that the CPT had begun to move its headquarters from Nan to Surat Thani since 1980. They said the removal of the headquarters was a gradual process chiefly aimed at facilitating its fourth congress which was recently held. Its strongholds in Nan had also come under heavy attacks by government forces.

Reporting on the progress of the famous "Tai Romyen" policy, Col Thammarak said government forces still continue their sweep-and-destroy offensive in suspected communist areas in Surat Thani and Nakhon Si Thammarat. He confirmed that all the major strongholds of the CPT here had already been destroyed. The areas where government forces continue their small-scale military campaigns include those straddling Surat Thani and Nakhon Si Thammarat. However, no clashes with the remnants of the communist insurgents had been reported so far, he said.

He also dismissed a press report that government forces had captured a stronghold of the CPT straddling the two provinces on Wednesday. He said what was referred to as a communist stronghold was only a small camping site with a few living quarters. An area known as "Khong Krathun" joining Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani is another target of the on-going sweeping operation, he said. The CPT held its fourth congress in the area, he added.

CSO: 4200/168

TALKS WITH BURMA ON CITIZENSHIP ISSUE 'EXPECTED'

BK170249 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] Thailand is expected to hold negotiations with Burma soon over the possible effect the latest Burmese citizenship law may have on the members of Burmese minority groups seeking refuge in Thai border areas, a senior government official said.

Col Somsak Sisuphannadit, secretary of the Thai-Burmese Border Committee, said Thailand wanted to inform the Burmese Government that it had not granted Thai citizenship to these Burmese people. They were only issued with immigration cards, he said.

According to Article 16 of the new Burmese citizenship law, Burmese citizens who leave the country permanently or acquire the citizenship of another country would have their Burmese citizenship revoked. Colonel Somsak said Thailand feared that the Burmese Government may consider the Burmese minority groups inside Thailand to be in the category. He said these minority people fled across the border into Thailand since 1963 and some have been engaged in a war against the central government in Rangoon.

Dr Chokchai Chunsiriwong, a specialist on Burma, told a seminar on "Thai borders security" at Chulalongkorn University Monday that Thailand may eventually have to provide permanent refuge for the minority groups if they were not accepted by Burma. There are more than 30,000 people belonging to these minority groups. He urged the Thai Government to urgently hold negotiations with Rangoon to settle the matter.

He also said that the Thai Government may not be aware of the number of the minority people who had joined rebels fighting against the Burmese Government. Their activities, he said, had created suspicions for Burma over the intention of the Thai Government.

Dr Chokchai said that there are now 275 Thai people being jailed in Burma. Most were caught while fishing in Burmese waters or cutting wood inside Burma.

CSO: 4200/168

EDITORIAL URGES SEATING OF SIHANOUK AT NAM

BK260336 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Can Nonaligned Summit Afford to Ignore Sihanouk?"]

[Text] The nonaligned summit is to be held in New Delhi in March next year--and that in itself is a joke because it was scheduled to be held in Baghdad, but two of the nonaligned countries, Iraq and Iran, chose to fight a war that has been going on for 2 years and might go on for...make your own guess. Nobody really knows which is a nonaligned and which is an aligned country. For instance Vietnam, Babrak Karmal's Afghanistan and Cuba are nonaligned while China is aligned to somebody--take your pick--and that is why she is not a member.

Time was when the provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam was a member and we have had no report of this phantom government losing its membership. Right now the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) is a member and, if we may hazard a guess, one of the most powerful ones. There was also a time when it was thought that the nonaligned grouping--nobody exactly knows the number of members but the best guess is 95--had a powerful voice in the UN General Assembly because they would vote as a bloc, but nothing could be further from the truth since from the time it was conceived it has steadily become more and more amorphous and more of a talkathon confronted with greater disunity than the UN General Assembly, if that were possible.

The Kampuchean issue is one of the more ludicrous facets of the nonaligned grouping since the last summit was held in Havana, Cuba, with Fidel Castro stage-managing the show. The three ASEAN members--Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore--wanted the nonaligned grouping to follow the UN in seating Democratic Kampuchea but Castro and all those who followed him wanted it the other way around. But Castro did not wish to pit his power with the gigantic figure of the only founding member alive then, Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, who came out in support of the three ASEAN members and so the vacant seat formula was accepted.

The problem of the Kampuchean seat, according to Indonesian Foreign Minister Mohtar Kusumaatmaja, stems from the Havana summit. Indonesia has protested the decision because it was taken without a consensus, just by banging the

gavel, according to Mokhtar. So the vacant seat formula was adopted. The problem is going to rise again in New Delhi when the gavel will be in the hands of Mrs Indira Gandhi and not Castro. The difference is not very much since India recognizes the Heng Samrin regime, for obvious reasons, and will not be inclined to allow President Norodom Sihanouk of Democratic Kampuchea to address the summit meeting--as a matter of fact Prince Sihanouk may not get a visa.

But there is a twist to this: Sihanouk was a close friend of Mrs Indira Gandhi's father Jawaharlal Nehru, who along with Abdul Gamal Nasir of Egypt and Tito, was a founding member. Further Sihanouk is the only person alive who has attended both the Bandung conference and the first summit of the nonaligned grouping. Add to this the fact that Sihanouk was allowed to address the UN General Assembly twice in his capacity as the president of Democratic Kampuchea. But everybody knows that the UN is torn by power politics, while the Nonaligned Movement is a holier-than-thou organization that, as Nietzsche would say, is "beyond good and evil."

There is no doubt in our mind at all that Prince Norodom Sihanouk should take his rightful place in New Delhi at the nonaligned summit conference. If this is too much to swallow for the Soviet bloc of nations (sorry, we keep forgetting that it is a nonaligned summit) like Cuba, Vietnam, Laos, Afghanistan, etc, then he should be allowed to state his case for his country--and that we would consider as fair according to the holier-than-thou standards. Mrs Gandhi, who will be waving the baton at the summit--if she is allowed to do so by persons like Castro and Pham Van Dong--owes it to her own and to her country's prestige to make at least a show of fair play.

CSO: 4200/168

BUSFARE CRISIS REPORTED, STUDENT ROLE, PREM RESPONSE

Athit Interviewed

BK140538 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Nov 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by The Chongkhadikit]

[Excerpts] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek will do everything within his power to keep the government in power and the country secure from external and internal threats in order to attract investors and tourists, he told the BANGKOK POST in an exclusive interview.

He has ordered forces, including police, in his charge, to be firm in combatting crime, maintaining order, and ensuring security of life and property of the people. He praised the courts for the heavy penalties being imposed upon criminals, particularly the death sentence for rapist-murderers.

General Athit will not tolerate any disturbances of the peace or any attempts to overthrow the government by force.

He called upon labourers, students and others protesting the raising of the bus fare in Bangkok to be patient and await government action on proposals by him to revise the extent of the rate rise, provide students with periodic coupons which permit them to travel on concessionary fares, and to cut down administrative waste, inefficiency and corruption to reduce bus operation expenses.

He excused Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon from responsibility over the boosting of the bus fare, explaining it was done by the Communications Ministry and that General Prem was in no position whatsoever to comment on the measure. "However, as a member of the public, I can," he added.

He appealed to the press not to sensationalise crime stories but to be positive in reporting news so as to prevent adverse effects on the climate for investment and tourism.

General Athit considers General Prem as "the best man we have around to head the government and lead the country," and he will give him full support.

He rejected suggestions that he had political ambitions and denied that any political party had approached him with an offer of leadership. He would not accept such an offer anyway.

Denying speculation that the prime minister is "indecisive," he said, "I know him better than others. As a responsible leader he takes time to consider an important matter but once he makes up his mind he's as firm as can be."

Since taking charge of the army, General Athit has pressed on with what remains to be done to improve its capability, utilising budgetary funds to the utmost benefit of the service, including raising the divisions to full manpower.

To prevent corruption, he has cut off middlemen in the purchasing of arms and other military hardware, restricting the buying to government-to-government contracts, the United States foreign arms sales (FMS) programmes and recommendations of military attaches in countries in whose arms the army is interested.

University Protest

BK200818 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Nov 82 pp 1, 24

[Excerpts] About 5,000 people rallied at Thammasat University soccer field at dusk yesterday in the second major protest against the bus fare increase within a matter of hours.

An earlier demonstration in front of Government House attracted a crowd of about 2,000 people, many of whom gave moral support to a group of people staging a hunger strike over the fare increase decision. Some of the fasters entered the fourth day of their protest yesterday.

Deputy Communications Minister Wira Musikaphong appeared on a special television and radio programme last night in a bid to defuse the escalating opposition to the bus fare rise, which took effect a fortnight ago.

Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek said last night that he believed Gen Prem would find a solution to the dispute following his return home tonight from China.

He said that General Prem should be given time to reach a solution and called on protesters not to create any unrest while the issue was under consideration. The military was watching the matter with concern, but it would not interfere, General Athit said.

He said he had suggested the solution to the bus fare problem, but whether it was adopted would depend on the prime minister.

General Athit dismissed a reporter's question on whether the military would use the protests as an excuse for a seizing power, saying: "Who would do it?"

Prem Orders Suspension of Increase

BK210246 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Nov 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon last night ordered the busfare put back to its former 1.50 baht level and promised to appoint a committee to investigate the running of the city bus agency.

After meeting with protesters soon after arriving home from Beijing, the prime minister said the reduction of the fare to its former level would be temporary. He did not discuss two other demands made by those opposed to last month's 50-satang fare raise: A voice for protesters on the investigation committee and the sacking of Mrs Wimon Siriphaibum, managing director of the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA).

Communications Minister Adm Amon Sirikaya said last night it might take up to 4 days for the committee to complete its investigation. He said General Prem may have to chair the committee. The minister said that if the committee insisted on reducing the fare: "Amon [as published] and other people responsible for the busfare increase will have to go."

Admiral Amon said the committee was expected to comprise representatives from neutral agencies as well as former student leaders, who were likely to be more objective than those involved in the recent protests. If the committee opted for a fare reduction it would take a few days to take effect because new tickets would have to be printed.

Prime Minister Prem said last night that he was aware that the government's decision to increase the minimum fare had created a problem for the people.

Student Role Noted

BK251140 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Report by Anuraj Manibhandu]

[Text] Bangkok, 25 Nov (AFP)--The Thai student movement, pushed underground following violent clashes here in October 1976, has returned to the scene, winning the first round in a battle to stop rises in Bangkok bus fares.

Earlier this week the government called off plans to up fares by 33 percent after student demonstrations, including hunger strikes, threats of self immolations and suicide. Though the future of the students' revival as a pressure group is yet to be seen, observers generally commended their choice of issue to stage their comeback.

By spearheading protest against the increase, students were ensured support from labour unions whose members are the largest single group to be affected by the increase enforced on 6 November. Though the battle is yet to be finally won, the government's decision to postpone the increase, even on a temporary basis, pending the findings of a special committee, was seen as recognition of their potential.

Rallies in various places throughout the city, and the hunger strikes by up to 20 people at Government House, drew mobs of several hundred during last week's protests. Though threats of self-immolation and suicide by hanging drew headlines, observers felt fear of the implications of student-labour solidarity was seen as a decisive factor in the government's decision to suspend the bus fare increase.

A 21-year-old journalism student from Bangkok's most politicized Thammasat University has assumed the leadership of a movement that spearheaded the overthrow of military dictatorship in October 1973.

Seksom Bandhitkul notes there were earlier comeback attempts--including a move against the extension of Thai Premier Prem Tinsulanon's term as army commander in chief in 1980. These efforts passed largely unnoticed, but last week's protest on bus fares was the first impressive show of student power in 6 years.

Following the ouster of military leaders in October 1973, students and allied liberals enjoyed an Indian summer of "democracy" that ended with clashes in October 1976 that brought down Thailand's last civilian-led, elected government.

The clashes, which pitted students against extreme right-wing groups, sent some 2,000 intellectuals into the arms of the outlawed Communist Party of Thailand (CPT), sources said. Most of these have now surrendered following conflicts within the pro-Peking party leadership, fierce government suppression and Thai Premier Prem's politics-before-military policy that ensures amnesty for defectors.

The Prem government appears to have defused a potentially explosive situation for the moment. But the students are seeking a continued say, demanding to be represented on the committee assigned to probe the financial status of the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA).

Fares were raised on grounds that the BMTA was operating at a loss. General Prem ordered suspension of the raise pending completion of the probe.

CSO: 4200/165

MUSLIM REBELS GET MILITARY TRAINING FROM PLO

BK150316 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Israeli defence forces which invaded southern Lebanon have come across evidence suggesting that Thai Muslims were among the international terrorist groups that received military training from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), according to an Israeli television network. The Israeli Television Authority (ITA) filmed an arsenal as well as documents captured at a PLO stronghold in southern Lebanon. Southern Lebanon was believed to be one of the largest havens for international terrorists seeking training in all types of subversive activity.

More than 1,000 terrorists of different nationalities were captured by Israeli forces invading southern Lebanon in June, ITA said. The film, which was a compilation of footage from several international TV networks, shows a captured passport purportedly belonging to a Thai Muslim identified as Abdulnois. According to the passport--apparently issued by one of the Arab states--Abdulnois came from Narathiwap in southern Thailand. [As received] It said he was born on 1 February 1958 and is a student. The passport was uncovered by Israeli invading forces among piles of documents left behind by PLO guerrillas.

The film quoted several of the captured terrorists as saying they came from such countries as Japan, South Yemen, Argentina, India, Iraq, and Iran. The training for these terrorists was provided by PLO guerrillas with financial support from several oil-producing Arab countries, it said.

Thai Muslim terrorists have been known to be receiving foreign support for quite some time and many have also been reported to have slipped out of the country for arms training abroad. But this is the first piece of solid evidence showing a Thai Muslim terrorist as having received training from the PLO.

CSO: 4200/165

THANAT INTERVIEWED ON ASEAN MILITARY TIES

BK150325 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Nov 82 p 5

["Excerpts" of Deputy Prime Minister Thanat Khoman's "recent" interview with reporter Phutsadi Khitaworanat]

[Excerpt] Question: On foreign affairs, do you agree with the line the Thai Government is taking, especially our relations with the superpowers?

Answer: In fact, we don't have many choices. As a small country, Thailand is dictated by the situation around it. Even superpowers themselves don't have many choices either.

The situation has forced us to oppose the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea which is a great threat to Thailand and other noncommunist countries in the region. We don't want to confront anyone but we cannot bow our head to anyone wrongly using force in violation of the UN Charter and international laws.

It is fortunate that we have ASEAN to serve as a bulwark against the Vietnamese intervention in Kampuchea with the Soviet backing. ASEAN has been opposing the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea and by doing that we have won sympathy from countries outside the region. Even some of the socialist countries, such as Yugoslavia, has endorsed our stand. The United States now increasingly realizes the necessity of opposing the expansion of power of Vietnam in Indochina.

Question: As a co-founder of ASEAN, do you think it is time that the regional organization begin military cooperation?

Answer: When we founded ASEAN 15 years ago, it was understood that we would have cooperation in all fields outside the military affairs. We have learnt from our experience with SEATO that it is difficult to form a military alliance. It is even more difficult for small countries with no military potentials to do so.

So after 15 years of existence we have not thought about giving ASEAN a military role to play. In fact, the combined military capabilities of ASEAN today are still no match to those of Vietnam which has been receiving

weapons from many other countries. Today, the Soviet Union is still supplying modern weapons and giving financial support to Hanoi. And that has enabled Vietnam to invade and occupy Kampuchea. The Soviet Union in return demands the use of Cam Ranh Bay and Danang bases in Vietnam.

Judging from these developments, if ASEAN was to change its form of cooperation to include military cooperation it would bring no positive consequences. It would only cause more wastage without rewarding results. Therefore, there is no prospect that ASEAN will be turned into a military bloc.

However, though ASEAN has no military nature like NATO or the Warsaw Pact, it does not necessarily mean that we are prevented from having bilateral or trilateral military cooperation. We have military cooperation with Malaysia. Indonesia also has military cooperation with Malaysia. But it is not a collective military cooperation among all the ASEAN members. Bilateral and trilateral military cooperation offers better advantages because it is compatible with the individual needs of the participating member countries.

As to the talk of a possibility of standardizing the weapon system of ASEAN countries, I think it is a future goal which cannot be achieved easily. Even members of NATO still don't have the same standard weapon systems.

But standardization of the weapon systems in ASEAN doesn't run counter to ASEAN's original goals. It in fact suits our original goal in which we don't want the regional organization to shoulder military burden because we have no great military potential.

CSO: 4200/165

RTA SPOKESMAN: NO EVIDENCE OF CPT-CPB LINKS

BK260338 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Nov 82 p 6

[Text] There are no indications that the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) has achieved any tangible cooperation with the Communist Party of Burma (CPB) to offset its political and military setbacks over the past few years, a senior army official said yesterday.

Spokesman of the Third Army Region Lt Col Somching Singhaseni said there had been low-level contacts between the two outlawed communist parties for 2 years. However, they had made no progress in their attempts to forge a closer association.

"We believe that the two parties have some basic differences which prevent them from expanding their relations," he told THE NATION. Both CPT and CPB are pro-China but the latter still enjoys material support from Beijing which claimed to have severed all military support for the former. Lt Col Somching said recent intelligence reports confirmed that no Chinese arms had arrived inside Thailand during the past several months. China had been supplying material and military supplies for CPT through Burma and Laos.

Beijing said that it is now giving only political and morale support for the Thai communist movement which has suffered serious setbacks over the past few years in both political and military fields.

Lt Col Somching said that the armed strength of the CPT in the north was believed to have declined from 3,500 armed guerrillas to only 400-500. He attributed the reduction in the number of the CPT guerrillas to continuous government suppressions and mass defections. The remaining guerrillas, he said, were also facing serious problems of arms shortage. Soldiers of the Third Army Region which is responsible for the entire northern region, were able to capture large volumes of arms and ammunition as well as destroy the communist strongholds during their operations.

CSO: 4200/165

NEW KPNLF CHIEFTAINS ANALYZED

BK150245 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bekaert]

[Excerpts] Is Sak Sutsakhan a man given a last chance?

In April 1975, when Phnom Penh was on the verge of collapse and the Khmer Rouge Army was smashing the last pockets of resistance put up by Lon Nol troops, Sak was called in to become the commander-in-chief of the desperate government army, replacing Sosthene Fernandez, for the last act of the tragedy.

Today, Sak is the new de facto commander-in-chief of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], taking over from Gen Dien Del as the main figure of a new four-member military committee.

What prompted Dien Del's resignation was the killing at Ban Sa-Nage of the commander of the Nong Samet camp, Om Luot, also known as Siem Sam On, one of the leading figures who emerged from the early days of the Kampuchean resistance movement against the Khmer Rouge--back in 1975.

The four-man committee replacing Dien Del and where former Minister of Defence Sak Sutsakhan (who arrived from the U.S. last year) is the most important figure comprises also General Thach Reng, former commander of the special forces (one of his last missions in April 1975 was to ensure the protection of Sak Sutsakhan who was also a member of the seven-member committee that took over the country after Lon Nol's departure).

Thach Reng arrived in Kampuchea last year from the U.S. The new committee also includes a civilian, Hing Kunthon, a French-trained statistician with good economic background who survived the Pol Pot regime and joined the KPNLF at the end of 1979 when he arrived from inside Kampuchea. Living in Ban Sangae, he was in charge of political warfare.

The fourth member, Chea Chhut belongs to the small group of veterans from the 1975 resistance movement. Although many observers have cast doubt on his integrity, he is said to have matured considerably in recent months.

Chea Chhut joined the KPNLF when the nationalist faction took over the camp of Nong Chan, in August 1980, after the mysterious death of the Sinahoukist leader and founder of Moulinaka, Kong Silas, one of the very few charismatic figures of the early resistance activities.

Chhut has been at odds with his Moulinaka neighbours led today by former paratrooper Colonel Nhem Sophon. But recently, Nhem Sophon's men came to the support of Chea Chhut soldiers involved in heavy guerrilla actions against Vietnamese outposts on the Poi-Pet-Sisophon area.

It is said that Chea Chhut, who has always been known for his business ventures, and is running a movie theatre in his camp, offered 2 days of free cinema shows to the Moulinaka soldiers.

A very unexpected positive effects of the existence of the coalition government. [Sentence as published]

CSO: 4200/165

RICE PRICE SUPPORT PROTESTS, PLIGHT OF FARMERS DISCUSSED

Editorial Notes Farm Problem

BK290712 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Time for a Fairer Deal for Farmers"]

[Text] The farmers gathered at Suphan Buri yesterday were not just representing their colleagues in that province or that region or simply rice planters. The massing of the rice growers at Don Chedi is an unmistakable demonstration that the people of the rural areas feel that they have been neglected for far too long.

The threat to march into Bangkok from 45 agricultural provinces is not just to ask for an increase in the paddy support price but also to show to the residents of the city that they have had it too good at their expense. The realisation that their taxes are subsidising cheap rice, low transport rates and other conveniences for the privileged city folk has come home to them.

It is most probably true that responsibility for arousing them lay with the politicians who every time when general elections are not too distant feel a compunction to actively and publicly take up the cause or causes of large groups like labourers, students and farmers. Lip service has always been paid to the farmers as being the backbone of the nation by politicians who want the votes of these 85 percent of the people. Although for most of the term of a government insufficient attention is given to the plight of the farmers, their time comes when a government's term is about to end and a new mandate has to be sought from the people. The farmers are wooed, their grievances are voiced and their causes are espoused.

In Suhan Buri where generally the farmers are better off than in other central plain provinces they are worried about the price of their rice. They have suffered from the drop in the price of off-season rice and are demanding that the government raise the support price to 3,750 baht per kwian. Whether market conditions and the financial capability of the government could give the farmers the guarantee of such a price will have to be decided by the economic ministers in consultation with technocrats and experts involved.

Any decision regarding the rice price, it must be remembered, cannot be implemented without the cooperation of the millers and the traders. Therefore, the government has to invite them for discussions. The problem with a price guarantee is that unless the government has adequate funds to buy all the rice that merchants refuse to purchase at the official price it cannot enforce that price. Besides, the government lacks the facilities for storage of all the rice that it may have to buy at the guarantee price. Long-term resolutions will have to be made if farmers are to get what they regard as a fair deal.

That is really what the protest at Don Chedi and the threatened demonstration in Bangkok is all about. The politicians may have stirred up dormant resentment in the farmers and, perhaps, bitten off more than they--or the government--can chew, but they are unwittingly emphasising the fact that the five million in the capital city must be considerate to their numerous poorer compatriots in the rural areas.

Farmers Rally for Increase

BK291136 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 29 Nov 82 pp 1-2

[Excerpts] Suphan Buri--About 5,000 farmers rallied here yesterday to press the government to increase the basic paddy price and declared that their fellow farmers from 45 rice-growing provinces throughout the country will jointly hold a demonstration in Bangkok on 14 December to put more pressure on the government.

Their announcement prompted Deputy Suphan Buri Governor Chairat Daramat, in charge of public order in the province yesterday, to report to the Interior Ministry and requested it to quickly find out measures to stop the army of farmers from converging to the city.

Deputy undersecretary of state for security, Charoenchit Na Songkhla, who directly witnessed the rally himself said in Bangkok late last night that the Interior Ministry had ordered governors of all provinces to do their best in preventing farmers from entering Bangkok.

He said provincial governors were instructed to listen to the farmers' complaints and relay to the central government. He did not believe that farmers will rally in Bangkok on 14 December as announced during yesterday's gathering.

The farmers arrived at Don Chedi Monument in Don Chedi District--the venue of the demonstration--from all districts in this province, some 170 kms northwest of Bangkok, and gathered for 5 hours to express their discontentment over the government's rice policy.

The demonstrators, joined by farmer representatives from Angthong, Samut Sakhon, Samut Songkram, Sing Buri and Chainat, announced that they will meet on 14 December at 8 am at the Royal Plaza in Bangkok--the day when the cabinet is scheduled to have its regular weekly meeting.

Leader of the Central Farmers Group of Thailand, Sutham Wichutraiphop, said farmer representatives would carry on their negotiations with the government until 6 December and "we will have to demonstrate in Bangkok on 14 December if nothing favourable is decided."

"We have discussed for 3 months and come to a conclusion that the minimum paddy price should be set at 3,750 baht. Farmers in other provinces agree with this," he declared.

He said farmers had no other alternative but to demonstrate for their own survival, insisting that their activity was not connected with any political movement.

A farmer leader in Suphan Buri, Damri Pangwuthiphong, who claimed himself as a farmer coordinator, said farmers from 45 provinces had sent him assurances that they would be willing to join the demonstration in Bangkok. He said farmers would also demand the government to directly buy paddy, and not rice, from farmers.

Thiwa Buntanthoeng who described himself as chairman of the Rice Producers Club of Thailand took the stage at around midday and said about 5,000 families of his fellow farmers in Pathum Thani promised to join the rally in the capital. He claimed that Pathum Thani farmers had already prepared some 500 tractors which would be driven into Bangkok.

Farmer representatives from other provinces were also given the chance to make their speeches on stage.

Some farmers were dissatisfied with the decision to hold a demonstration in Bangkok on 14 December, insisting that they want it to be held before that. They, however, agreed after explanations from farmer leaders who said a few rounds of negotiations would have to be held earlier to that.

Kamnan [headman] of Samchuk District, Lan Sawangsi, said after the crowd of farmers dispersed at nearly 3 pm that farmer leaders would seek a meeting with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon on 6 December to "enquire if he really wants to help farmers who represent 80 percent of the country's population."

The government last week accepted into consideration an eight-point demand by farmers in Suphan Buri, one of which called for an increase of the paddy price from 3,000 baht to 3,750 baht.

Interior Minister OKs Protest

BK300303 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Nov 82 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Sitthi Chirarot said yesterday there is no law to stop farmers from coming to Bangkok next month to protest the government's paddy price support scheme. "If they want to come and protest, then they can do so, by all means," he said.

The farmers from 45 provinces pledged during a peaceful rally last Sunday at Don Chedi District of Suphan Buri to travel to Bangkok on 14 December for a mass demonstration if the government refuses to raise the minimum rice support price immediately by 750 baht to 3,750 baht a kwien (1,000 kilogrammes).

Refusing to reveal who was supporting the farmers, General Sitthi said: "We have to wait and see, but the government is not ignorant of what is going on. But we will not accuse anyone right now." He said the government has given rice farmers all available help and is doing its best to ease the present discontent, adding that the economic ministers will meet and thrash out the problem during their regular Monday meetings.

In other related matters:

--Police Chief Pol Gen Narong Mahanon yesterday told all high-level police officers concerned to be alert, and to watch the farmers' moves.

Pol Gen Narong said although the planned protest is legal and within the principles of democracy, the police still have to maintain law and order, as well as prevent "a third party" from interfering and taking advantage of the issue.

--Under-Secretary of State for Interior Phisan Munsatsathon yesterday sent an urgent radio message to all provincial governors asking them to urge provincial merchants to buy farmers' paddy at no less than 3,000 baht a kwien.

He told the governors to report to his ministry any incident of sales being less than the set price.

The recommendations were worked out during the committee's meeting yesterday afternoon, he said.

Saiyut Warns Protesters

BK020333 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] The military is watching with serious concern the farmers' protest and inter-party feud in the government over the paddy price support scheme, Supreme Commander General Saiyut Koetphon said yesterday.

"Misunderstanding can lead to instability. And when instability becomes serious enough to affect national security, it usually brings about military intervention," General Saiyut said.

"It is hoped that nothing like this happens," he added.

His veiled warning came after verbal exchanges early this week between the Social Action and Chart Thai parties. It also follows the threat of a huge demonstration in Bangkok this month by farmers protesting against low paddy prices.

General Saiyut said the paddy price controversy must be quickly settled by the ministries concerned, adding that the military will stay on the sidelines and will only help when it is needed.

Maintaining that the government has not ignored their plight, the supreme commander urged farmers to accept the paddy prices announced this week. He said: "In a democracy the farmers have the right to voice their opinions. The government should have a good public relations programme to inform the farmers of what it is trying to do for them.

"If public relations are poor, the people will always try to carry out some action to attract attention to their plight," he added.

On Tuesday the prime minister's office set the floor price of 5 percent paddy at 3,000 baht a "kwien" (1,000 kg) which is to be increased by 100 baht every month until next March.

Asked how the military will handle the situation if the farmers go ahead with their threat to hold a mass demonstration in Bangkok, General Saiyut said he hoped the government by then would have explained to the farmers what it could or had done to help them.

Asked to comment on the paddy supporting price, General Saiyut said he was not an expert who could judge whether the rice price was appropriate. The paddy supporting price should be set at a level acceptable to all parties concerned, he said.

Meanwhile General Rian Ditthabanchong, chief-of-staff of the Supreme Command, said that the feud between the Social Action [SAP] and Chart Thai parties was nothing unusual under the democratic system, especially during the run-up to next April's general election. However, he felt that the row would eventually lead to the break-up of the coalition government similar to the telex controversy which prompted the SAP to leave the Prem One government.

He urged the press not to over-sensationalise the conflict between the parties if they want the government to remain in office until the end of its term next April.

Editorial Urges Continued Price Supports

BK270207 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Backbone of Our Economy At Risk"]

[Text] For many years Thailand's extensive agricultural sector has been touted as being the backbone of the nation's economy, with rice in particular being a major foreign exchange earner year after year. This happy state of affairs should continue for a long time to come, and keep Thailand in the position of an important food exporter to a world market that becomes more demanding as world population continues to rise unchecked. With this in mind, the government should take a great deal of care and go out of its way

to ensure that the vast farming community is kept sufficiently satisfied to continue production of its major foods like rice. Not only will this ensure adequate stocks of a food staple for domestic consumption, but also protect the much-needed millions of dollars earned in foreign exchange.

Too many industrialised nations have found their disillusioned farmers turning to the industrial sector as a source of income, having been unable to earn sufficient money in the farming sector to support their families. The result is a sharp decline in agricultural production. Already Thailand is noticing signs of its farm workers beginning to drift towards the major cities in search of work--and money. Further indications are coming from the growing unrest among the central plains' farmers, who have become so dissatisfied with the basic price of paddy--the government support price of 3,000 baht a kwien (1,000 kilogrammes)--that they have threatened demonstrations in Bangkok in search of better paddy prices.

The key word here is support. Our farmers are asking for help from the government, not only to put more money in their pockets, but also to ensure that the basic support price is adhered to. In these troubled economic times, the farmers are finding it difficult to make ends meet, and in the pressure to earn some money, are being exploited by middlemen who force them to accept cash prices lower than the government-fixed basic paddy price. These are definitely not farmers happy with their lot, and the government should note the danger signals.

Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has wisely ordered a review of the support price for paddy, presumably as a preliminary to raising this price. Whatever the new rate is fixed at, it must be both fair to the farmers and reflect on the export price. The government must also ensure that it gives its backing to this basic price by following up with an increased purchasing budget to enforce it. It is one thing to set a price, but the farmers must be assured of getting this price, otherwise the whole exercise becomes meaningless.

As a follow up, the government must continue to monitor all basic prices of agricultural commodities and adjust them when it can, not wait for dissatisfaction to occur. It must also try to allocate larger and larger budgets for purchase of these basic commodities in order to give increased support to the agricultural sector and break the strong grip the middleman has in this area. Support for the farmer should continue to be an integral part of government policy, because if the worst comes to the worst, we have, as yet, no broad industrial sector to fall back on should the agricultural sector begin to falter.

Khukrit Cites Political Factor

BK010203 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Dec 82 pp 1, 3

[Text] Social Action Party [SAP] leader, M.R. Khukrit Pramot claimed yesterday that a certain political party was behind the farmers' protests against the government's paddy price support scheme.

Speaking to the press after a SAP meeting at the Indra Regent Hotel on Monday night to consider the controversy over the price support scheme, he said: "There is no need to mention the name of the party in question because it is clearly evident which party it was, judging from the recent news reports."

The SAP leader also said he believed that his party had come under heavy attack over the question of the rice price. "Who was the first to initiate the paddy price intervention scheme if not the SAP?" he asked.

"Before we became the government in 1975 rice farmers were at the mercy of the market forces of demand and supply. When we became the government we formulated a policy under which the minimum guarantee price of rice was fixed at 2,500 baht a kwien [1,000 kg]. The programme was scrapped when we were pushed out of power.

"When we came back and joined the first Prem government, Mr Bunchu Rotchanasathian revived the policy with the minimum price raised to as high as 4,000 baht a kwien. "Now with the third Prem government we are hopeful that we can once more help the farmers to get a better price for their rice, but we have to do it right from square one."

M.R. Khukrit said that at the moment the farmers could get only between 2,400 and 2,500 baht a kwien, although the minimum intervention price was fixed at 3,000 baht. "The SAP would like very much to see the farmers able to sell their paddy at the highest price possible, say 10,000 baht a kwien," he said.

"Some parties in the coalition government have suggested that the government should raise the floor price to 3,750 baht. But I would like to ask them what means do they have to enable the farmers to get this proposed price in practice? "If they can do it then I am prepared to go down on my knees before them, but if not, I'll want to hit back," the SAP leader said.

He also warned: "Don't try to discredit the SAP. We are ready to explain why the Public Warehouse Organisation [PWO] is making a loss.

"The PWO is currently conducting two types of business. The first is the ordinary kind of business which is generating reasonable profits. However, there are other kinds in which the PWO has to accept losses so as to give as much assistance as possible to the farmers.

"Buying rice from farmers at a higher price and reselling it at lower price is in accordance with the government's policy, and has the cabinet's approval. I am therefore really puzzled as to why the SAP has been singled out for attack. Why isn't there anyone blaming the government for committing countless numbers of financial failures?"

The PWO is one of the two main organisations being blamed for the failings of the paddy price programme. Both the PWO and the Marketing Organisation for Farmers are under the jurisdiction of the commerce minister, Sqd Ldr Punnam Punsri, a leading member of the SAP.

Asked to comment on Khukrit's statements, Deputy Prime Minister Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan, leader of the Chart Thai Party, said the SAP leader had simply lost his temper.

He said the rice issue would not lead to a breakup of the coalition government similar to that which occurred as a result of the oil telex controversy last year because the government's term will expire in the next 4 or 5 months.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Bun-ua Prasetsuwan, meanwhile, said he did not understand why M.R. Khukrit was so upset.

Newspapers Warned About Reports

BK010212 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] Special branch police yesterday warned newspapers to be more responsible in their news reports and columnists' comments on the government paddy price intervention scheme.

Special Branch Police Commander Maj-Gen Ophat Rattanasin, in his capacity as Bangkok printing officer, summoned editors to a meeting yesterday afternoon and asked them to refrain from publishing sensational headlines or news about the scheme.

Some papers had given the impression that the government had failed to tackle rice problems which was untrue, he complained.

He also said news should be separate from opinion, and newspapers should refrain from printing unsubstantiated reports or charges against government officials.

CSO: 4200/166

THAILAND

DEVELOPMENT OF PORT GETS APPROVAL

BK250408 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Nov 82 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] The Eastern Seaboard Development Committee yesterday gave a final approval for the Communications Ministry to develop Laem Chabang as another deep-sea port for Thailand. The project which was hit by years of delay and indecision will begin in 1987 and is expected to be completed in 1990.

The new deep-sea port will handle containerised and general goods, certain agricultural products and support industrial estate in handling export-oriented products.

Loans to finance the project will come from Japan, particularly for use in engineering survey and design work.

The committee, chaired by Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, also gave final approval for the construction of the Map Taphut port in Rayong Province. The Map Taphut port is designed to support major industrial development projects expected to sprout up following development of the Map Taphut industrial estate.

The committee also decided to slow down expansion of Sattahip port pending the construction of Laem Chabang and Map Taphut ports during the next 5 years. However, the port may be used to facilitate survey and development of natural gas in the Gulf of Thailand. It will also handle construction materials and equipment to be used in the setting up of various eastern seaboard industrial projects, including Laem Chabang and Map Taphut ports.

Concerning the 20,000 million-baht petrochemical project, the committee proposed that the petrochemical industry be immediately set up in order to attract investors to this project. The project consists of two steps. In the first step, ethylene and propylene will be jointly produced by the government and private sectors.

In the second step polypropylene, high-density polyethylene, low-density polyethylene, vinyl chloride and ethylene glycol will be produced by the private sector. Both steps will take about 5 or 6 years.

As regards national fertiliser project, the committee acknowledged the recent setting up of the National Fertiliser Company and said that the government would support the project.

SENIOR CPT MEMBERS NOT ALLOWED TO QUIT

BK22137 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] The Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] has turned down a request from two senior members who want to resign and return home from China because it fears they might disclose party secrets to the government, a well-informed source said yesterday.

Mongkhon Na Nakhon, 71, and Pan Kaeomat, 67, who have been living in exile in southern China since 1979, are committee members of the CPT in the northeast region.

The source told the BANGKOK POST that the Chinese Communist Party approved their request to return to Thailand to live the rest of their lives here subject to approval from the CPT. Both men were described as suffering from senility.

In rejecting their resignations, said the source, the CPT told Mongkhon and Pan to remain in China. He said the party feared the two men might reveal CPT secrets to the authorities if they returned to Thailand.

He added that Mongkhon and Pan wanted to quit the party because they were dissatisfied with their inactive posts. The Thai Embassy in Beijing was informed of the men's request and granted them permission to return to Thailand, he said.

Mongkhon joined the CPT during the Sarit Thanarat regime. He once led the now-defunct Independent Front established in China and was a member of the Committee for Coordinating Patriotic and Democratic Forces, the political wing of the CPT.

Pan who joined the communists more than 20 years ago was the party's committee member for the northeast.

He also claimed that Udom Sisuwan, a CPT Politburo member who surrendered to the government last September, did not get permission from the party to resign.

Udom, the source said, tricked the CPT by telling it he would carry out the party's work in Bangkok.

CSO: 4200/167

THAILAND

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE

BK200814 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Nov 82 p 24

[Text] Vietnamese refugees in Camp NW 82 will be allowed to go to third countries if foreign governments agree to resettle them and confirm definite dates for their departure from Thailand, secretary-general of the National Security Council, Sqn-Ldr Prasong Sunsiri, said yesterday.

He said that he had informed Mr De Salis, permanent representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, during their meeting yesterday that the resettlement of refugees from the camp would be on a humanitarian basis and that the ICRC could coordinate their resettlement.

He warned, however, that without resettlement guarantees, any attempt to move the refugees from Camp NW 82 to the Phanat Nikhom processing centre would be rejected.

Camp NW 82, near the Thai-Kampuchean border, currently accommodates 1,700 refugees who fled Vietnam and travelled through Kampuchea. Sqn-Ldr Prasong said the camp had been under the ICRC's responsibility since it opened.

The ICRC has supplied medicine, food and water for Camp NW 82, making conditions there better than those at other refugee camps where 64,000 Kampucheans are living.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong said that Camp NW 82 had become a controversial issue because the Vietnamese refugees had tried to attract attention from the press and foreign visitors. He claimed that they had openly made complaints in an attempt to be resettled by third countries.

Asked about a recent statement by United States Congressman William Hughes who said he would press for the release of five Vietnamese American children in the camp, Sqn-Ldr Prasong said that the Amerasian refugees could be resettled providing a third country promised to take them.

CSO: 4200/167

REFUGEE CHILDREN CAN ACQUIRE CITIZENSHIP

BK230317 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 82 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] In a major reversal of government policy, children of the "Dien Bien Phu" Vietnamese refugees and those of illegal immigrants from other countries who were born in Thailand can now apply for Thai citizenships.

Mr Phisan Munlasatsathon, under-secretary of state for interior, said the decision to permit the children of these illegal immigrants to become Thai nationals was reached yesterday at a meeting which was attended by representatives from the National Security Council, the military, police, local administration department and other agencies concerned.

For security reasons, the former Thanom Kittkachon administration issued Executive Order No 337/2515 in 1972 banning children born to illegal immigrants, particularly Vietnamese refugees who came to Thailand during the liberation war against the French colonial rule in Vietnam in the early 50s, from receiving Thai citizenships under the Nationality Act.

About 70,000 Vietnamese fled from Laos into Thailand during the Indochinese war and some 40,000 of them were repatriated between 1960-1963 under the Rangoon agreement signed between Thailand and Vietnam in 1959.

A census which was undertaken several years ago showed that there were still about 40,000 Indochinese war refugees in Thailand. The real figure is likely to be higher as many of them have borne children in this country.

Mistrusted by Thai officials as a potential "fifth column," these old-time Vietnamese refugees were restricted to nine northeastern and southern provinces. It is common knowledge, however, that since the enforcement of this restriction is lax, some of these refugees have managed to slip out of the restricted areas.

Meanwhile, an informed government source said that only two conditions would be used in determining whether an applicant should be granted Thai citizenship. They are: That the applicant must have done some good deeds for Thailand, and must swear allegiance to the country and the monarchy.

Applications of children sired by American soldiers who cannot be traced would be given special consideration, the source said.

The source noted that this major reversal of government policy especially regarding the "Dien Bien Phu" Vietnamese refugees' children stemmed from the reasoning that for security reasons it would be better to treat them as Thais rather than frustrate their lives as stateless people and eventually become potential threats to the country.

Negotiations between Thai and Vietnamese officials to repatriate these refugees and their children bogged down following several rounds of talks in Bangkok in late 1978 and early 1979.

At the final round of talks, Vietnam agreed to take back only 3,000 refugees on "a voluntary basis." It also insisted that Thailand give the same rights to Vietnamese refugees as are given to the Chinese.

CSO: 4200/167

BURMESE ARMY CLASHES WITH WA REBELS IN NORTH

BK160343 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Nov 82 p 2

[Text] Chiang Mai--Five pro-communist Wa tribesmen and two Burmese soldiers were killed Sunday morning when the Burmese Army clashed with the Wa National Army [WNA] after a hot pursuit into Thai territory, according to a police source.

Fighting first erupted when WNA forces moved from Ban Nong Uk in Chiang Dao District of Chiang Mai across the border to Burma's Huai Ma Lang Noi, the Border Patrol Police [BPP] source said, adding that the number of troops on both sides were unknown.

The source said that the clash sent WNA troops fleeing into Thai soil, followed by the Burmese Government's forces in hot pursuit. A second round of battle erupted, claiming the lives of two Burmese soldiers and five WNA men, the source said.

On receiving the report, the Thai authorities rushed to the battle site where they found five dead bodies left behind by WNA forces which reportedly retreated into Mae Ai District of Chiang Mai.

The source said that the WNA often illegally cut trees on the Burmese soil and had elephants drag the logs into Thailand. This time the Burmese forces probably arranged an ambush for the WNA, he said.

A team reportedly has been sent to find out whether any Thai had been involved in the WNA's illegal timber activities on Burmese soil.

The BPP yesterday received a report of fresh WNA movement in Mae Ai District close to the Thai-Burmese border, the source said, adding that a BPP unit had been sent to push the WNA forces out of Thai territory.

By last night there was no report of any clash between the BPP and WNA forces.

CSO: 4200/167

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT REPORTED--During the first 9 months of this year, Thailand's exports totalled 124 billion baht, an increase of 10 percent over that of last year. The director of the Bank of Thailand's office of the governor said that during the same period Thailand imported about 149 billion baht worth of goods, or 7 percent less than that of last year. The country's trade balance improved significantly compared with that of last year. This year Thailand has a trade deficit of about 13 billion baht, or about 48 percent less than that of last year. [BK220329 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 19 Nov 82]

ORDER ON REFUGEES' CITIZENSHIP CLARIFIED--The government's policy regarding the nationality of children born in Thailand to "Dien Bien Phu" Vietnamese refugees remains unchanged, secretary-general of the National Security Council, Squadron-Leader Prasong Sunsiri, said yesterday. He stated that the executive order which prevents children of illegal immigrants, especially long-time refugees, from becoming Thai citizens is still enforceable. He said, however, that any person who believes he or she is entitled to Thai citizenship should submit their cases to the Interior Ministry for consideration. The ministry will then decide whether Thai citizenship should be granted, he added. Sqn-Ldr Prasong said that several children of illegal immigrants who obtained forged documents had applied for Thai citizenship. [Text] [BK240419 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Nov 82 p 5]

EX-CONVICTS FROM LAOS ARRIVE HOME--Mukdahan--Laotian authorities on Wednesday freed 11 Thais reportedly suffering from malnutrition and malaria after completion of their jail terms, Governor Chamlong Ratchaprasoet said yesterday. Governor Chamlong said many of the men had to be rushed to the provincial hospital for treatment after they arrived at this border province from Savannakhet on Wednesday. "Those suffering from acute malaria were in bad shape," Chamlong told the BANGKOK POST by telephone. They were arrested by Laotian authorities on charges ranging from illegal entry to smuggling, he said. [Excerpt] [BK190215 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Nov 82 p 5]

MONG FLEE LAOS--Phayao--Fifteen pro-Chinese Mong hilltribes people arrived in this provincial town yesterday claiming they had crossed the Thai-Lao border to escape harassment from Laotian and Vietnamese forces, Phayao Police Superintendent Col Chan Khamwan said yesterday. Police disarmed the

Mong of their three M-16 rifles, one AK rifle and ammunition as soon as they arrived in Chiang Kham over the weekend. The Mong told Thai officials that they were from Phou Lan, Sayaboury Province in northern Laos, adding that they decided to cross into Thailand after Laotian and Vietnamese forces launched a suppression campaign against them. The Mong, whose ages ranged from 4 to 33, were sent to the 31st civilian-police-military command in Chiang Kham for further interrogation. Later they will be sent home. Colonel Chan said if they refused to return home, they would face charges of illegally entering Thailand. [Text] [BK240429 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Nov 82 p 3]

MILITARY-CIVILIAN COOPERATION--Smooth cooperation between the military and the civilians is the key to the attainment of full democratic rule in this country, Supreme Commander General Saiyut Kerdphon said yesterday. Speaking to the Harvard Business School Club of Thailand, General Saiyut pointed out that in the past neither the military nor the civilians alone could successfully lead the country toward democratic rule. But, he said, before the military and the civilians could work together harmoniously, each had to understand its own role in the society. The general said the role of the military was not just to defend the country against internal and external threats, but also to assist in the development of the country. He cited the fifth 5-year development plan which emphasises that the country's economy and defence should be developed in such a way that they are in harmony with and in support of each other. For example, a canal which has been dredged for strategic purpose can also be used for irrigation or refugee camps which were closed down would be turned over for civilian use. Saying that Thailand is facing external threats on its eastern border and has to depend on itself in defending the country against such threats, General Saiyut said that Thailand can best make use of its limited resources for the defence of the country through a total defence system. The system, he explained, is the mobilisation of not only the military forces, but also paramilitary and civilian forces. Self-reliance is the best method of national defence, said the general, adding that its success has already been proved throughout the Thai history. [Text] [BK260441 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Nov 82 p 3]

BURMESE FORCES RAID SHAN REBEL CAMP--Chiang Mai--About 200 Burmese Government troops crossed into Thailand at the weekend and attacked a base camp of the Shan United Revolutionary Army, the Border Patrol Police [BPP] reported. There were no Thai casualties during the attack, BPP officers said. They said that fighting broke out at 6:30 am on Saturday after Burmese Government regulars, volunteers and rangers launched an attack on the camp, near Ban Muang Tong in Chiang Dao District, Chiang Mai Province. A BPP unit which went to the area after receiving a report of the battle was told that a Burmese soldier and a Shan had died in the fighting. Three Burmese soldiers and four Shan rebels were also reported to have been wounded in the 30-minute battle, the unit learned. The Burmese attack completely destroyed the rebel camp and the Shans had been forced to flee back across the border into Burma, the police said. The Burmese force reportedly confiscated some M-16 rifles and about 200 rounds of ammunition from the Shans before it crossed back over the border, they said. The Burmese force reportedly included elements of its 65th battalion, based in the eastern Shan state city of Ton, as well as defence volunteers and rangers, the BPP sources said. [Text] [BK220131 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Nov 82 p 1]

UNHCR TO HELP IN REFUGEE REPATRIATION PLANS--Deputy United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees William Smyser pledged to help Thailand return refugees to their homelands and resettle the rest in other countries. Deputy Interior Minister Banyat Banthaththan said that during his talks with Mr Smyser yesterday at the Interior Ministry, the deputy commissioner assured him that the UNHCR will help Thailand find ways to increase the number of refugee departures both back to their homelands and for resettlement in third countries. He quoted Mr Smyser as saying that some success had been made to repatriate refugees following an improvement of the situation in their homelands. As in the case of Laos which, Mr Smyser said, had shown readiness to open negotiation with Thailand and the UNHCR, for the return of the Laotian refugees, Mr Banyat said. On the orderly departure programme, Mr Smyser pledged that the agency will help encourage third countries to accept more refugees for resettlement by directly contacting their governments. He added that while here, he will also ask the third countries' ambassadors for assistance in this task. [Text] [BK160415 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Nov 82 p 2]

TRADE SURPLUS WITH FRG--Thailand enjoys a trade surplus of almost 4 billion baht with West Germany during the first 8 months of this year. The figure represents an increase of about 60 percent over the same period last year. Trade volume between the two countries rose to about 12 billion baht during January and August, up 9 percent compared to that of last year. Thailand's exports increased 18 percent and imports from Germany fell by 4 percent. [BK270754 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 25 Nov 82]

BBC 'NEGATIVE' COMMENTARY RAPPED--Interior Minister Gen Sitthi Chirarot yesterday lashed out at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), accusing it of violating "political etiquette" for its negative commentary on Thailand's economic and political conditions. He said the commentary had damaged the investment climate in Thailand. "It was a violation of political etiquette. It created an atmosphere of suspicion in Thailand," he said. Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek last week also attacked the BBC over the commentary which alleged that he was silently waiting to stage the next coup. The commentary broadcast from London also claimed that General Athit created the "123" anti-crime service to strengthen his power base. General Athit described the commentary as "filth." [Text] [BK180151 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 18 Nov 82 p 6]

COMMUNIST INSURGENTS SPRING AMBUSH--Ratchaburi--Three policemen were killed yesterday morning when a police patrol unit was ambushed by a band of communist insurgents in Pak Tho District here, Governor Pathom Sutthiwat-Naruphut said yesterday. He said another three policemen were also wounded in the attack by about 30 communist insurgents. The ambush took place at 9 am while a team of seven policemen were on their routine patrol in Tambon Tungluang, he said. The policemen stepped on a boobytrap which exploded. They then came under heavy fire from the communist insurgents. One of the policemen escaped to ask for help. Police reinforcement was sent to the scene and had a brief clash with the communist insurgents. The ambush yesterday was the first major communist activity in months. The three policemen killed were identified as Pol Sgt Maj Phan Phuchong, Pol Sgt Maj Suchin Daengduang and Pol Pvt Samrong Chuchart. There was no report of

casualties on the other side. Ratchaburi was once a communist-infested province. However, the insurgents have been keeping a rather low profile during the past year. [Text] [BK190727 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 19 Nov 82 p 11]

VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE ARRIVE--Pattani--Fourteen Vietnamese boat people, including three children, arrived ashore in this southern province on Sunday, Governor Prida Mukthaharat reported yesterday. He said the Vietnamese arrived at Laem Tachi of Tambon Talo Thabo in Yaring District on board a trawler. They were immediately taken into custody by local policemen, he said. They will later be turned over to the refugee transit centre in Songkhla. [Text] [BK170339 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Nov 82 p 6]

KING'S CONDITION IMPROVING--The royal household office on 9 November issued an announcement according to which His Majesty the King developed an irregular heartbeat 8 days after the panel of doctors stopped his medication. Since then, the doctors have resumed His Majesty's medical treatment in order to control his heartbeat. As a result, the king's condition is improving and his heartbeat is normal, except that on 17 and 19 November the king developed a slightly irregular heartbeat lasting about 2 or 3 minutes each time. An X-ray of His Majesty the King yesterday [21 November] afternoon showed that his lungs are normal. The king is continuing to take regular exercise. [Text] [BK230340 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 23 Nov 82]

CSO: 4207/33

TONGA

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO TONGA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Pakistan's ambassador to Australia S. Wajahat Husain, who has been appointed concurrent ambassador to Tonga, presented his credentials to King Taufa 'Ahau Tupou IV in the Pacific region. [BK191313 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Nov 82]

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